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VUE

WEEKLY

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CANADIAN STARLETT
HAS A SCREAM...AGAIN

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USHA GUPTA

DANCER MIXES OLD
AND NEW WORLD INFLUENCES
Dance by Alexandra Romanow • Page 21



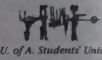
Chantal Kreviazuk*



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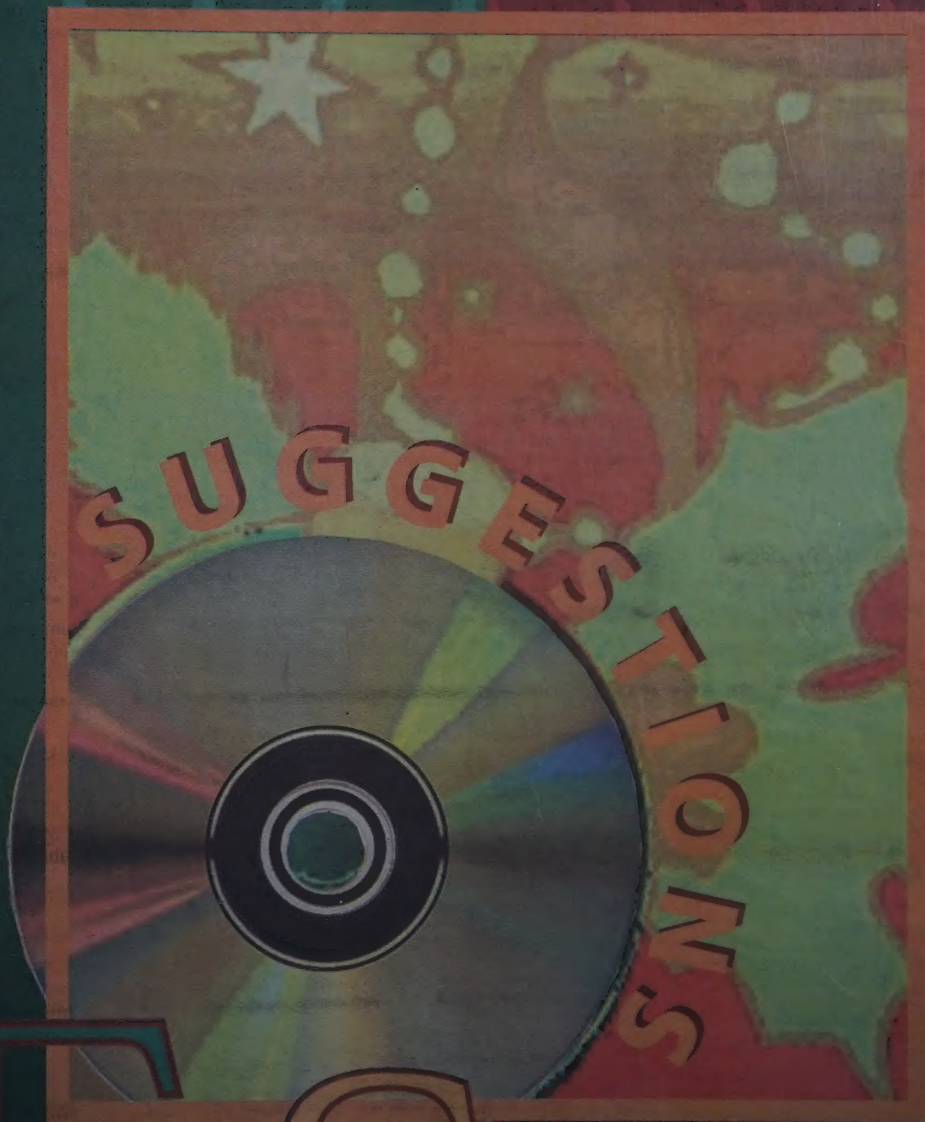
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Vue

WEEKLY



FOR THE SEASON

Harry Connick Jr. waxes romantic

HARRY CONNICK JR. To See You

Actor and crooner extraordinaire Harry Connick Jr. has been more than a little bit busy as of late. On his latest album, *To See You*, Connick stands at helm after writing, arranging, orchestrating and conducting the 75-minute production. The songs on *To See You* are stylistically similar to the smooth, romantic tunes featured on best-selling albums like *When Harry Met Sally*, *We Are In Love* and *Harry Connick Jr.* Yet *To See You* represents a new endeavor for the multi-talented Connick. It blends his two loves, the jazz quartet and the symphony orchestra, into one harmonious mix.

The jazz quartet includes three renowned musicians (tenor saxophonist Charles Gooch, bassist Reginald Veal and drummer Arthur "Bam Bam" Latin) as well as Connick himself tickling the ivories. In order to distinguish the different roles between the orchestra and the jazz quartet, Connick decided to do something a little bit different. "I surrounded the quartet with the orchestra, so between vocal/orchestral passages the quartet would play. Then the orchestra would come back in. It really was a unique experience."

To See You represents Connick's attempt at a "Love-in" with every track being a slow, sensual adagio of romantic music. The idea for a completely romantic album came to Connick when he was on an airplane and a stewardess asked him to recommend one of his albums for "romantic purposes."

"A few came to mind," says Connick, "but none was perfect for what she wanted. A couple of songs on almost every CD were slow songs but there was no disc that was 'completely romantic.' This recording is dedicated totally, musically and lyrically to love. Different kinds of love. Husband to wife, boyfriend to girlfriend, lover to lover, lost love, needed love, wanted love..."

Lovely thoughts from the artist with seven platinum albums and three double platinum albums totaling almost 15 million units sold world-wide. So what's up next for this diverse talent? Connick has just completed filming *Hope Floats* where he stars as the romantic lead opposite Sandra Bullock. The film is due out in early next year.

WILL SMITH Big Willie Style

Grammy winner Will Smith has finally released his first solo album, *Big Willie Style*. Long gone is the Fresh Prince moniker as this Philly native returns to his musical roots. After winning the MTV Video Awards' Best Video From a Film category with his "Men In Black" clip, Smith is rarin' to go.

One single off of *Big Willie Style* has already been released in video format and is receiving airplay on MuchMusic and MusiquePlus. "Just Cruisin'" was directed by *Men In Black*'s own Robert Caruso. "Gettin' Jiggy Wit It" is currently receiving radio airplay and the fans are clamoring for attention.

Although Smith has left his Fresh Prince persona behind, he hasn't forgotten his friends. Trackmasters Jazzy Jeff and Warren G also lend their talents to the new CD. Smith was a recipient of the first



Harry Connick Jr.

ever Best Rap Performance Grammy in 1998, following up in 1991 with the Best Rap Performance by a Group or Duo Grammy. Good thing Smith is equipped with his *Men In Black* Ray-Bans because the future is looking mighty bright.

VARIOUS Superstar Christmas

Never before has such an eclectic group of singers and musicians been gathered together on one album. *Superstar Christmas* features legends from all musical genres with proceeds from the sale going to the T.J. Martell Foundation for Leukemia, Cancer and AIDS.

Featured is all the Christmas classics—and a few lesser known tunes—sung by greats like the Backstreet Boys, Michael Bolton, Boyz II Men, Mariah Carey, Celine Dion, Amy Grant, Plácido Domingo, John Lennon, Frank Sinatra, Luther Vandross and many more.

IMANI COPPOLA Chupacabra

"You will attract cultured and artistic people to your home" was the message Imani Coppola received in her fortune cookie. So what do you think, is it a possibility?

Coppola herself is certainly cultured and artistic. She classifies herself as a musician, singer, rapper and soothsayer—a hefty load for a 19-year-old sophomore at the State University of New York. Majoring in studio composition, Coppola's musical education started at home. The Coppola household was certainly a musical one; her father has mastered several instruments, her mother sings and plays bass, her sister songwrites, two of her brothers rap and her other brother plays classical upright bass.

The album title, *Chupacabra*, actually means "goat sucker" in Spanish. Coppola explains the odd title choice. "It's a reference to what some people believe are de-

mons, or beings from outer space, who come and suck all the blood out of goats. But it was recently discovered that, in fact, the goats were probably just being preyed on by some regular old earthly organisms." Hey wasn't there an *X-Files* episode about the Chupacabras?

Coppola's eclectic manner of thinking is perfectly mirrored on her album—an eclectic mix of pop, urban, hip hop and alternative with the use of a variety of instruments. The first single off the album, "Legend of a Cowgirl," is already receiving widespread radio-play. The song itself is not about a literal cowgirl but presents a metaphor for a willful woman.

"I talk about riding a horse," says Coppola. "It's a metaphor for doing whatever I want. About having sex with whoever I want and not feeling guilty and riding on to the next town and starting all over again. The song began as an idea for a movie: a fantasy about women who love 'em and leave 'em and ride off into the sunset. It was just a fantasy I was having for about a week and now I'm stuck with it."

Chupacabra was written and produced in collaboration with Michael Mangini (Digable Planets) and is meant to reflect Coppola's chaotic upbringing and restlessness of mind—punctuated by the rare mix of openness and confidence.

LEONARD COHEN More Best Of

At age 64, Leonard Cohen has definitely made his mark in the Canadian artistic community. His debonair style and self-deprecating wit has won him fans the world over.

Perhaps becoming an ordained monk has given Cohen the urge to reflect on his past works. *More Best Of* is the follow-up to Cohen's 1975 release *Best of Leonard Cohen*—taking up where it left off. It recaptures the past 22 years with his most beloved hits, from "Suzanne"

to "Take This Waltz" to "Tower of Song" to "Closing Time." All in all, 11 classics are featured with an added bonus of two previously unreleased tracks: "Never Any Good" and "The Great Event."

FIONA APPLE Tidal

Singer/songwriter/pianist Fiona Apple has covered a lot of ground with her debut album *Tidal*, released in July of '96. It seems Lady Luck was on Apple's side when she was sending around her three-song demo tape. Producer Andrew Slater (the Wallflowers) heard it and couldn't meet with Apple soon enough. Her current radio-hit, "Criminal" is receiving a lot of airplay and displays Apple's keen and satiric songwriting to its fullest.

I KNOW WHAT YOU DID LAST SUMMER ost

What's a teen scream flick without a little angst-driven music? *The I Know What You Did Last Summer* soundtrack contains the who's who on the alt-rock scene today. From riot grrrl grunge band L-7's "This Ain't the Summer of Love" to modern metal act Korn's "Proud" to rock/alt/country icons Southern Culture on the Skids' "My Baby's Got the Strangest Ways" you get a diverse taste of the alternative scene. Even Canada's own Our Lady Peace (who will be in town for a Coliseum date Jan. 23) make the bill with its contribution, "Clumsy."

OZZY OSBOURNE The Ozzman Cometh

Ozzy's new double-CD compilation is a fitting tribute to a man who defined heavy metal music, from his early days as Black Sabbath's frontman (back when the genre was still referred to as "acid rock") to his current-day status as arena-touring mainstay.

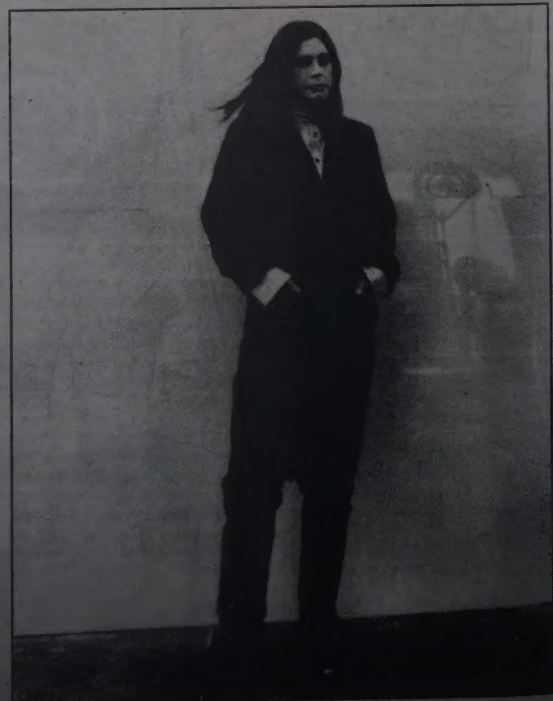
There are some gems in Ozzy's

first greatest-hits package, including demo versions of Black Sabbath playing what would later become signature songs. You've never heard "War Pigs" as it's being presented in this package (Ozzy claims he found the tapes while cleaning out his attic). Of course, there's a collection of Ozzy's solo hits, including Randy Rhoads' famous guitar wail at the outset of "Crazy Train" and the creepy keyboards that backdrop the haunting "Bark at the Moon." For any of you who caught Ozzy's Coliseum show last year, there's a blazing live rendition of "Paranoid," Sabbath's signature tune, which will be sure to stir some memories.

The second disc features a rare gem from the vault—an interview with the Ozzman himself. In his decidedly tongue-in-cheek British style, Ozzy gives his views on life in the music industry, how Black Sabbath actually sucked (it's just that no one figured it out) and why Metallica gave him the bum rush during a recent tour. It's a fitting memoir of rock 'n' roll excess.

Ozzy has yet to fade into the background. In fact, his Ozzfest Tour out sold all other tours this summer—including U2 and Lilith Fair. Canada remains Ozzy's number-one selling territory in the world. Canada has provided the Ozzman with two gold, five platinum, three double-platinum, and one triple platinum record—with total record sales in Canada reaching over two million albums and total records sold world-wide reaching the 30 million mark.

Love him or hate him, Ozzy Osbourne has had a profound impact on the recording industry. In an era long before Nine Inch Nails or Marilyn Manson, he and Alice Cooper stood alone as shock rockers for another generation. His legacy hasn't died, as Black Sabbath records continue to endure and influence a new generation of bands. Ozzy's relevance rocks on—hard.



Ozzy Osbourne

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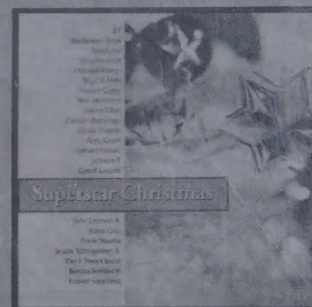
Will Smith
Big Willie Style

The Artist Formerly Known As Fresh Prince is out with his first truly solo project. Includes the hit singles, "Men In Black" and the newest dingle, "Just Cruisin'."



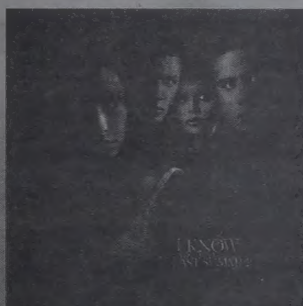
Harry Connick Jr.
To See You

Harry's latest album is dedicated totally, musically and lyrically to love. With the help of a stellar jazz quartet and 60-piece orchestra, *To See You* takes us back to "We Are In Love" and "When Harry Met Sally."



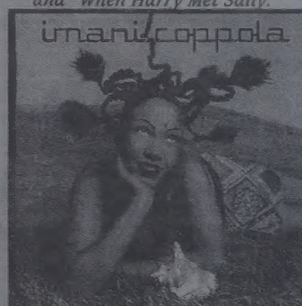
Various Artists
Superstar Christmas

20 songs compiled by the Who's Who in music are gathered together on one album to benefit the T.J. Martell Foundation for leukemia, cancer and AIDS research. Backstreet Boys, Band Aid, Boyz II Men and more...



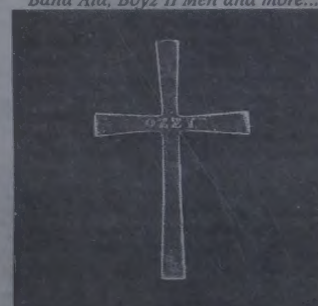
Various Artists OST
I Know What You Did Last Summer

It's the horror movie of the year and has a soundtrack that's almost as scary. Put together Kula Shaker, Type O Negative, The Offspring, L-7, Soul Asylum, Southern Culture On The Skids and more, throw it on your disc player and enjoy the ride.



Imani Coppola
Chupacabra

This 19-year-old musician, singer, rapper and soothsayer specializes in an eclectic mix of pop, urban, hip-hop and alternative flavours. The first single, "Legend Of A Cowgirl" has graced the airwaves for over 10 weeks and should now grace your music collection.



Ozzy Osbourne
The Ozzman Cometh

The Ozzman Cometh is the ultimate Ozzy Greatest Hits. It contains 15 tracks including previously unreleased basement tapes and a new song, "Back On Earth." Also, for a limited time, you get a second disc containing more Sabbath basement tapes and rare interview footage.



Fiona Apple
Fiona Apple

With a voice that transcends space and time, Fiona Apple delivers the lyric slow like honey, heavy with mood. Heavy with mood embodies the very essence of Tidal. It all started with "Shadowboxer" and continues with her latest hit single, "Criminal."



Leonard Cohen
More Best Of

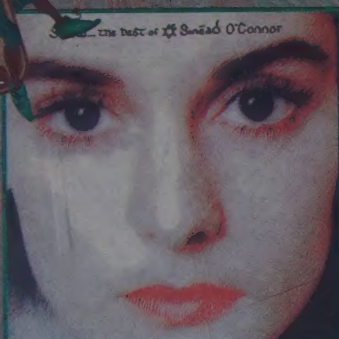
At the age of 64, Leonard Cohen is still considered the statesman of the Canadian artistic community. More Best Of encompasses the second half of his illustrious career and includes 11 hits and two new songs, "Never Any Good" and "The Great Event."



Various Artists
Kickin' Country 4

What better way to kick off the season than with the album with the most stars? Kickin' Country 4 features tunes by Terri Clark, Collin Raye, The Mavericks, Patty Loveless, Little Texas and more. 17 tracks in total, plus an additional bonus track on the CD.

Suggestions For the Season...



SINÉAD O'CONNOR
So far... the best of



THE VERVE
Urban Hymns



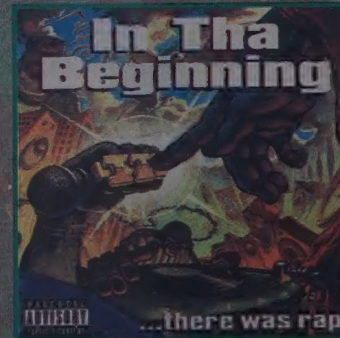
BLUR
Blur



THE HANGING GARDEN
Original Sound Track



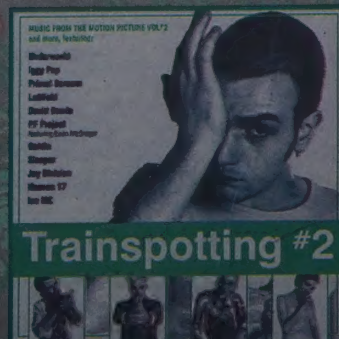
EVERCLEAR
So much for the afterglow



VARIOUS ARTISTS
In the beginning
...there was rap



LENNON LEGEND
The Very Best Of
John Lennon



TRAINSPOTTING #2
Original Sound Track



DAFT PUNK
Homework

Sinead O'Connor shows The Best Of her timeless voice



Sinead O'Connor

SINEAD O'CONNOR The Best of Sinead O'Connor

Sinead O'Connor, who graced Edmonton with her presence at last year's Folk Fest, has distinguished herself as one of this generation's most talented singer/songwriters. *The Best of Sinead O'Connor* features her best-known and most-loved songs, including the Prince-penned tune "Nothing Compares 2 U." Also included are melodic favorites, "Mandinka," "The Emperor's New Clothes" and "I Am Stretched On Your Grave." Ever haunting, ever enchanting, the voice of Sinead O'Connor is timeless.

VARIOUS In The Beginning...there was rap

In Tha Beginning...there was rap represents the first time some of the gold- and platinum-plus artists of the rap world have come together on one album to record brand-new versions of old school classics. What better way to pay homage to the old-school greats than to have the new-school superstars record some of the classic songs that have made hip-hop what it is today? Take a walk down memory lane with Sean "Puffy" Combs to check out a "Big Ole Butt" or join the Wu-Tang Clan as they perform a brand new version of the classic hip-hop joint "Sucker MC's" by Run DMC. And of course the infamous "Rapper's Delight" is covered by none other than the Def Squad—Redman, Keith Murray and Eric Sermon. *In Tha Beginning...* also features Snoop Doggy Dogg, Mack 10, Cypress Hill, Coolio, the Roots, Master P, Bone Thugs-N-Harmony and Tha Dogg Pound.

THE VERVE Urban Hymns

It may be a surprise to some that the Verve (Richard Ashcroft, Nick McCabe, Simon Tong, Peter Salisbury and Simon Jones) has put out its third album, *Urban Hymns*. In 1995 the group went through a much-publicized break-up. It was surmised by some that the break-up, which occurred at the height of the band's popularity,

was due to the fact the Verve was becoming too popular. The members simply thought the music was getting lost amidst the hoopla that came with being a crowd-pleasing, touring band.

While fans held their collective breath for 18 months, the Verve decided the true essence of their music could be reborn. *Urban Hymns*, produced by Youth (James, Nitzer Ebb), the Verve and Chris Potter, takes the most intimate and essential elements of the human experience—elation, pain, sex, loss—and amplifies them to a cinematic level. *Urban Hymns* is also the most symphonic of the Verve's three releases and the debut release "Bitter Sweet Symphony" epitomizes this new and welcome change.

JOHN LENNON Lennon Legend

Lennon Legend is considered to be the definitive collection of John Lennon's solo career. Spanning the whole of his career the album contains 20 digitally remastered tracks, including all of his UK chart singles. *Lennon Legend* is the only Lennon compilation currently available on CD. The album was compiled with the assistance of Yoko Ono and features a booklet of rare photographs.

Lennon's musical and cultural legacy cannot be over emphasized. His spirit and music continue to dominate popular culture both directly and—as reflected in the work of many contemporary musicians—in terms of influence.

THE HANGING GARDEN ost

Canadian director Thom Fitzgerald's film, *The Hanging Garden*, has received worldwide acclaim. The film focuses on homosexuality in relation to family life and has captured the hearts of all who have seen it. The soundtrack is a collection of songs from Canada's best known folk and roots groups.

The album features Ashley MacIsaac's (who also has a cameo in the film) "Reels," Jane Sibbery's "When Spring Comes" and

Spirit of the West's "Kiss & Tell." Each song parallels the film's use of the garden as a parallel to life and family. Also featured are Leahy, Lori Yates, the Rankin Family, Holly Cole, Ani DiFranco and Mary Jane Lamond—names familiar to any fan of Canada's rich cultural diversity.

BLUR s/t

It isn't often that a band gets a chance to reinvent itself. Especially in Britain, a land where fickle tastes tend to pigeonhole bands into genre-specific holes. Manchester bands don't escape the Manchester sound. Retro '70s acts are blasted if they record something new-sounding.

But, Blur (along with Radiohead) are one of the few exceptions to the rule. After developing a solid career writing reverberating, very British pop—tea, crumpets and all—the band decided to buck every trend it had created and recorded an album which owes far more to American rock influences than flavor-of-the-month trends. Recorded after a tour with American indie-rock heroes Pavement, *Blur* is the work of a band that would rather write a dependable rock song than have a hit on the dance charts.

Songwriters Damon Albarn and Graham Coxon teamed with Pavement's Stephen Malkmus for some of the record—and the spill of influences is apparent. The opening track, "Beetlebum," is a laid-back guitar-heavy intro into a world of rock delight. "Song #2," with its now-ubiquitous "whooh-hoo!" chorus, has become the rock anthem of '97. But the rest of this album rocks as well, with a glee that's never been before apparent with the Blur camp. Coxon and Albarn are no longer art-school auteurs, they've decided to become genuine rock stars, instead. Enjoy the experiment—at least it'll get that nasty wax build-up out of your ears.

TRAINSPOTTING #2 ost

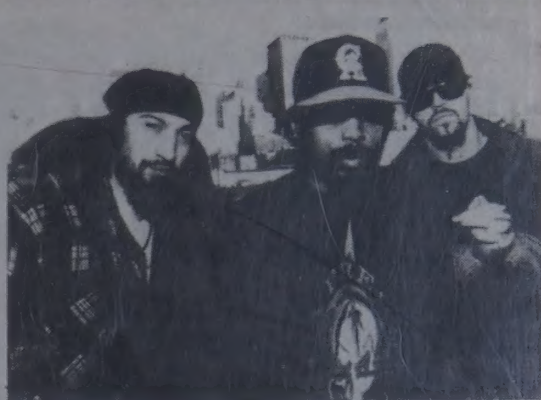
Featuring remixes of Iggy Pop's "Nightclubbing" and Underworld's dark and disturbing electronic romp "Born Slippy," the second installment of the movie's soundtrack offers re-takes on songs which appeared on the first *Trainspotting* disc.

But there's also songs that were inspired by the movie, hit the cutting room floor or are what producer Danny Boyle and *Trainspotting* author Irvine Welsh feel are consummate *Trainspotting* songs. Joy Division's "Atmosphere" and Heaven 17's "Temptation" are throwbacks to alternative rock's "classic" period, while Fun Boy Three's cover of the Go-Go's "Our Lips Are Sealed" is the disc's highlight.

All this and the famed "Habanera" from Bizet's *Carmen*, too. It's enough to make every blagging punter, trainspotter or nutter on this side of the Atlantic happy for just one more fix.

DAFT PUNK Homework

Originally discovered by Stereolab's Duophonic label in '92, the duo of Thomas Bangalter and



Cypress Hill

Guy-Manuel de Homem Christo have become the biggest musical sensation France has produced since, well, Ravel wrote that song for Bo Derek.

The boys are well-known as remix artists, working with such famed acts as the Chemical Brothers and Ian Pooley. With the '97 release of their EMI debut, *Homework*, Christo and Bangalter have solidified their reputation as princes in the world of electronica. The album's lead single, "Da Funk" became both a radio and video staple. The Spike Jonze-directed video clip became one of the faves of '97, with its filmography treatment of a night in the life of a dog-faced boy. Daft Punk have reinvented techno as pop music, creating melodies that are both irresistible and soulful, without losing the cutting edge.

EVERCLEAR So Much for the Afterglow

Everclear lead-man Art Alexakis has been through it all, suicides of those close to him, drug abuse and a transformation from hard-working club musician to rock

star. Two years after *Sparkle and Fade* became one of the rock scene's surprise sensations, Alexakis and co. return with an album that depends less on power chords and more on melody development.

From the Beach Boys-ish intro to the album's title track (Alexakis is a huge Beach Boys fan) from influences which range from country to (egad!) electronic music, *So Much for the Afterglow* works on a variety of levels. First, there's the music, which finds Everclear trying to cross musical bridges the band's never crossed before. And then there's Alexakis' attention to lyrical detail. He's never been afraid to be heartfelt and truthful—even when the subject matter is deeply personal. Maybe that's what makes him the perfect anti-rock star hero, the man who has ascended to the throne on which Kurt Cobain once sat.

Everclear decided not to play safe after the success of *Sparkle and Fade*—and it's a gamble which has paid huge artistic dividends.



Mary Jane Lamond



98°



JANN ARDEN
Happy?



ANDREA BOCELLI
Romanza



BOYZ II MEN
Evolution



ZUCKERBABY

SANTA SAYS

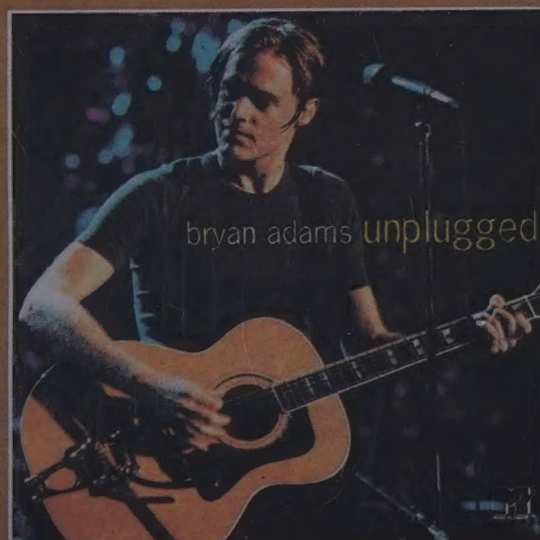
Give the Gift of Music!



HOLLY COLE
Dark Dear Heart



VARIOUS
Much Dance 1997



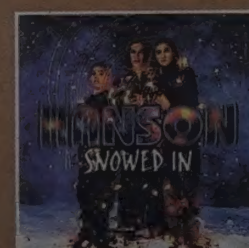
BRYAN ADAMS
MTV unplugged



MATTHEW GOOD
BAND
Underdogs



STING & THE POLICE
The Very Best Of . . .



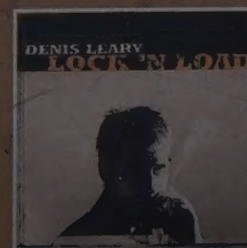
HANSON
Snowed In



SOUNDGARDEN
A - Sides



JOHN MELLENCAMP
The Best That I Could Do



DENIS LEARY
Lock 'N Load



JAY-Z
In My Lifetime, vol. 1

THE NIGHT'S GOING TO BE ANYTHING BUT SILENT

A VERY SPECIAL CHRISTMAS 3



16 Christmas Classics

Mary J. Blige • Blues Traveler • Tracy Chapman
Chris Cornell w/Eleven • Sheryl Crow • Enya
Hootie & The Blowfish • Jonny Lang • Dave Matthews
Natalie Merchant • No Doubt • Rev Run and
The Christmas All Stars featuring Mase, Puff Daddy,
Snoop Doggy Dogg, Salt n' Pepa, Onyx, and Keith Murray
The Smashing Pumpkins • Patti Smith
Sting • Steve Winwood

With your purchase of **A VERY SPECIAL CHRISTMAS 1, 2 & 3**, two wonderful things happen! The first is that you make the Olympic dream come true for mentally handicapped athletes not only in Canada, but from around the world. The second is that you receive an artist and track listing which speaks for itself.

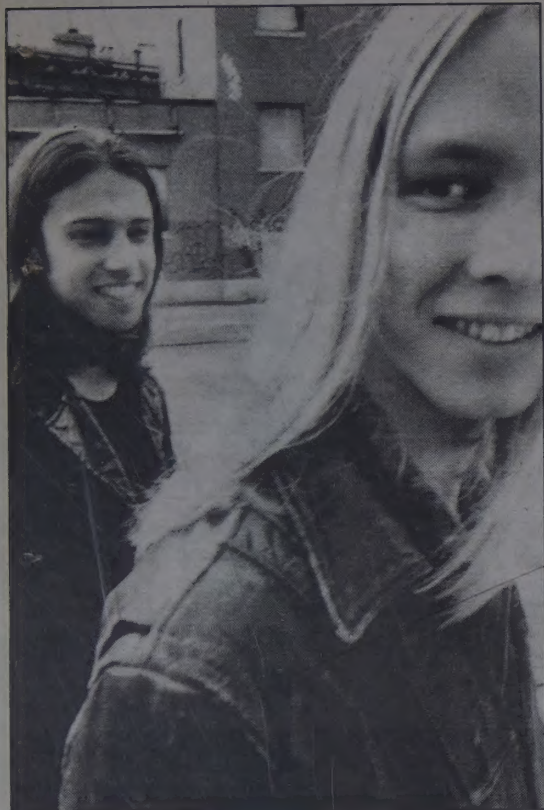
All monies from the proceeds of the sale of **A VERY SPECIAL CHRISTMAS 1, 2 & 3**, go directly to the Special Olympics fund. Merry Christmas.

Special thanks to the AFM for their contribution.
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a PolyGram company

Kenny Wayne Shepherd: a legend in the making



Kenny Wayne Shepherd

KENNY WAYNE SHEPHERD Trouble Is...

Kenny Wayne Shepherd is only 20 years old but he's already become a bit of a blues legend. It all started in the early '90s, when blues fans across the American south would flock to catch a glimpse of the then-13-year-old Shreveport, La. native. He would go fret to fret with any known blues player. This was a kid who could shred a slide guitar like he had a case of the Mississippi Delta Blues since he was in the womb.

In 1996, his debut record, *Ledbetter Heights*, became a smash success. An homage to the great blues tradition, the album spawned three top-10 *Billboard* rock chart singles (including the sweet "Deja Voodoo"). The album sat at the number-one spot on the blues chart for a whopping five months.

Yeah, that's right. Five months.

Now, with his new album, *Trouble Is...*, Shepherd has achieved his simple goal. To reinvent the rock-blues tradition. With an all-star back-up band and the help of production genius and ex-Talking Head Jerry Harrison has made an album that childhood idol Stevie Ray Vaughan would put his stamp of approval on.

Featuring the vocal work of ex-Uncle Six frontman Noah Hunt, the Paul Rodgers-ish lyrical delivery is a perfect complement to Shepherd's work on the axe.

In the end, this album is a great blues-rock experiment, where Shepherd pushed himself

as a songwriter and as a performer.

"I think what this album brings is a totally fresh approach to doing this music," says Shepherd. "I'm a purist myself. I've been listening to the blues since I was really young. I've researched it. But what I bring is a young person's approach to the blues—it's free-flowing and wide open. And with Jerry getting us such great sounds, I'm feeling like this record is just gonna blow up."

Confident words, indeed. But confidence should come naturally for a guy who's been a guitar hero long before he graduated from junior high.

ARKARNA House on Fire

This West London quartet caused quite a stir two years back when their debut indie album *R U Scared?*, challenged the entire concept of electronic music at the time. Instead of settle on a sound which depended on a 180-bpm time-clock, the band added guitars and hard-edged sounds to the tech.

But musical diversity has always been the lot for members, Ollie J, James Barnett, Lalo Creme and Bid. All are super studio players and producers—and before they formed Arkarna they worked with acts as diverse as electronica-gods Leftfield, swoon-crooner Tom Jones, funk-goddess Chaka Khan and soulmasters Stevie Wonder and James Brown.

Now, the band returns with a new major-label effort, *House on Fire*, and it's already been

compared to a bevy of different great artists—Nine Inch Nails, New Order and Underworld.

It's not fair to call them techno, industrial or hardcore; what Arkarna has managed to achieve is a union of technology, to bring the electric guitar, the drums and the synths and staples together in a musical mish-mash which is uniquely its own. After all, when you have as much soul in your background as Arkarna, how could you approach electronica with a cold heart?

RY COODER AND VARIOUS ARTISTS Buena Vista Social Club

Add Buena Vista Social Club to the list of great supergroups.

This is an all-star line-up, for sure. Guitar legend Ry Cooder leads the charge, accompanied by Latin music legends Ibrahim Ferrer, Rubén González, Eliades Ochoa and Compay Segundo. Recorded in Havana, the album is what Cooder called the "...greatest musical experience of my life, the greatest I've ever had and expect to have..." (as told to BBC Radio 2).

Swaying in latin music styles from the bolero to the danzon to the son, 77-year-old pianist González, 70-year-old singer Ferrer and 89-year-old singer Segundo—who just signed a new record deal—team with Cooder to create an album that captures both the vibrancy and the sweat of Cuban music. Recorded in a six-day stint in a vintage Havana studio (Egrem Studios, where Nat King Cole recorded before the Castro revolution), this record may be one of the most important world music releases of the year.

KACY CROWLEY Anchorless

Kacy Crowley moved from New England to New York to chase a dream: to become a great singer/songwriter without compromise. Of course, success did not come easy—for years, she survived waiting tables on the Lower East Side. Then, in 1995, she decided to move to Austin, Tex. a city with a prime music scene and much nicer weather than the Big Apple. She made busking her career.

But she never turned her back on her gift, an ability to tell moving stories within the confines of a simple song. Last year, after a triumphant gig at Austin Tex.'s famed SXSW Festival, Crowley finally got the record deal she deserved.

What she's produced is *Anchorless*, a collection of heart-wrenching songs and rootsy guitar-drive anthems which should push the envelope of the female singer/songwriter even further.

USA Today compared her lyrical style to the incomparable Rickie Lee Jones and her voice to Fleetwood Mac witch-woman Stevie Nicks. The album's first single, "Hand to Mouthville," has become the buzz single in many major markets. The video for the song was shot in Toronto.

Many of the songs featured on the album were written in the



Big Wreck

bathroom of the one-bedroom apartment she shared with then-boyfriend, now husband, Karl Anderson (the playwright and novelist). Amazingly, the album manages to capture the honesty and emotion she put into the songs when she first strummed them on her guitar. It's as if the listener has been invited into that old apartment and asked to listen to a few songs—after waiting for Kacy to get out of the bathroom.

BIG WRECK In Loving Memory of...

After forming at Boston's famed Berklee College of Music, Ian Thornley, Dave Henning, Forest Williams and Brian Doherty soon found playing gigs was far more enjoyable than going to class.

Over the next five years, Big Wreck toured relentlessly, showcasing its powerful guitar melodies and variety of influences.

"We're not just standing on the shoulders of the last big thing," says Thornley, the band's singer and lead guitar player.

"We're standing on the shoulders of every musician who's come before us. Oh sure, anyone can play a pentatonic blues box but do they really know what it means? Everybody borrows but not everybody can create something new. You've gotta go back and actually live some of it yourself—not because Ry Cooder said so but because you want to find out for yourself why Ry Cooder got to be as good as he is. And that means going back to Son House, not Soundgarden... As for us, we don't want to regurgitate whatever the last trend was."

The band's Atlantic Records' debut crackles with that vision. *In Loving Memory Of...* features a myriad of swell guitar interplay, dashing between the blues and big-sounding bad-ass rock 'n' roll. You could call it rock, you could call it alternative but you can't call it unoriginal. Mixed by Jack Joseph Puig (Tonic, L7, the Verve Pipe), this album proves that you can take a whole slew of influences and make them all new again.



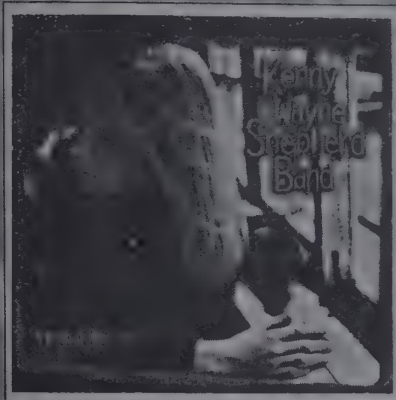
Kacy Crowley

Mark Seliger

Clay Patrick McBride

Creston Frank

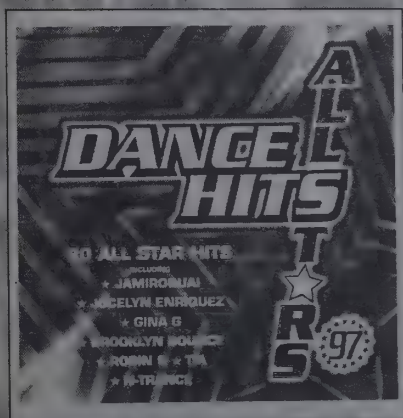
It's the Season...



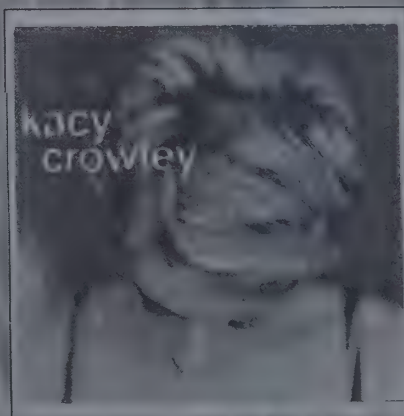
KENNY WAYNE SHEPHERD BAND
Trouble Is...



ARKARNA
Fresh Meat



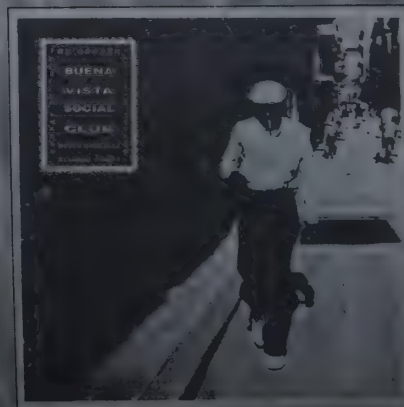
VARIOUS ARTISTS
All Star Dance Hits '97



KACY CROWLEY
Anchorless



BIG WRECK
In Loving Memory Of...



RY COODER / VARIOUS ARTISTS
Buena Vista Social Club



WARNER MUSIC
CANADA

Aqua may be bigger than Barbie



the kind of record that goes well with a snowy evening and a bottle of wine. The album has some standouts, including "How" (which appeared in the movie *Twister*) and "Truthfully," an anti-love song (about falling for someone you really don't want to fall for, but are helpless to resist), which was influenced by the movie *One Fine Day*. "Falling in Love" has a country and western feel and features a guest vocal from Colvin.

It's a lush, varied, moody record.

SMASH MOUTH Fush Yu Mang

At the end of the year, Smash Mouth's absolutely massive "Walkin' On the Sun" single, that '70s cop-show trip with phat grooves and punk-rock attitude, may go down as the surprise single of the year.

After all, bands that combine jazz influences with the punk-rock sound of the Buzzcocks aren't supposed to have hit singles. They're supposed to be confined to college radio. But Smash Mouth's success stems from the fact the band becomes more than its influences. The band switches from party-on silliness to sincere-and-serious from song to song as quickly as the grooves change. The 12 songs on the album work well side-by-side, but are in no way peas in a pod.

The album has almost reached gold status in Canada and the next single, "Why Can't We Be Friends," promises to show us another side of this very diverse band.

NO THUNDER Live in the Tragic Kingdom

This 90-minute video, shot dur-



ing a two-night sold-out stand at the Arrowhead Pond in Anaheim, Cal. (owned by those lovely Disney folks), shows the band who re-breathed life into ska culture at its sweaty best. Close-ups of chanteuse Gwen Stefani are sure to make every No Doubt fan happy.

And there are enough of them out there. The band's *Tragic Kingdom* album went 13-times-platinum around the world. And the song "I'm Just a Girl," has become such an infectious staple of pop culture, well, even the male fans at the Arrowhead Pond can be witnessed singing along.

Directed by Sophie Muller, who directed the hit video "Don't Speak"—which won the band the Best Group Video trophy at the MTV Awards), *Live at the Tragic Kingdom* features the band's hits as well as some more obscure blasts from the past. As well, look

for a crazy cover of the Beatles' "Ob-La-Di, Ob-La-Da."

NINE INCH NAILS Closure

One of the greatest blues guitarists of all time puts out an all-star release which features such illustrious guests as Tracy Chapman, the Rolling Stones, Pink Floyd's David Gilmour, Simply Red's Mick Hucknall and the Belfast Cowboy himself—Van Morrison. Eric Clapton and Jeff Beck, guitar legends in their own right, also make appearances. A must-have for both blues and rock 'n' roll fans.

BUSH Alleys and Motorways

This new home video features 10 videos from the British band's multi-platinum albums *Sixteen Stone* and *Razorblade Suitcase*. But there's more to this package. *Alleys and Motorways* also features interviews with Gavin Rossdale and co. as well as behind-the-scenes tour footage, Bush home movies and never-seen-before live performances.

NINE INCH NAILS Closure

With this double-video set, fans of Trent Reznor's Industrial vision will be treated to glimpses of the *Self-Destruct* Tour. The shots, interestingly enough, were taken by Trent himself using a hand-held camera.

The second video contains the complete collection of Nine Inch Nails videos, including unedited clips of "The Perfect Drug," "Closer" and "Happiness in Slavery."

MARILYN MANSON Dead to the World

If we mention Trent Reznor, we're obligated to mention the man whose career he helped launch: the controversial shock-rocker Marilyn Manson.

Dead to the World is a one-hour concert video which contains live footage from the *Antichrist Superstar* world tour, as well as behind-the-scenes backstage footage. Anyone who saw the master of black rock at the Shaw Conference Centre earlier this year can relive the moment with this new video collection.

Aqua

AQUA Aquarium

We all have an opinion of the single "Barbie Girl," it's been a staple of major-market radio for months. How big is the Scandinavian supergroup (even though the band lists Denmark as its home nation, some of its membership—namely former TV-show host Lene Grawford Nystrom—hails from Norway)? *Aquarium*, the band's debut album is three-and-a-half times platinum in Canada. It spent six weeks at the number-one spot on the Canadian charts.

But "Barbie Girl" promises to be the first step in Aqua's pop-giant career. "Lollipop," the second single from *Aquarium*, is already receiving heavy airplay.

And if you think the band is popular here, you should check out the charts in their native Scandinavia. The album debuted at number-one on the Danish charts and stayed there for 11 whopping weeks. Every 12th Danish household owns a copy of *Aquarium*.

It's a great irony. In 1997, Aqua may just be bigger than Barbie.

CHUMBAWAMBA Tubthumper

Formed in Northern England in the early '80s—in a time when the policies of the Conservative Thatcher government were sending the labor movement into a tailspin, Chumbawamba (an eight-piece punk-rock assault) were a breath of fresh air in the face of the new "Mel Mel Mel" generation.

With a vocal approach that sounds like a song you'd hear at a Liverpool-Everton derby and a heavily-anti-government lyrical slant, the band (Lou Watts, Danbert Nobacon, Boff, Duncan Bruce, Harry Hamer, Alice Nutter, Paul Greco and Jude Abbott) became an artistic voice for the working class, creating sing-a-

long punk anthems that were catchy enough to hum at the Match of the Day or while slogging in the mine. The only accolade that had escaped the band was success in North America.

Then came *Tubthumper*, which was an honest attempt by the band to bridge its music to a larger audience. A more diverse musical approach was adopted. The band probably would have been happy with a few spins on college radio—instead, *Tubthumper* has become one of the biggest albums of 1996. And the single that led the way—pure Chumbawamba: "Tubthumping" features a chant-song chorus that makes you feel like you're supporting England Away. Don't believe it? The song gets a spin after every goal the Edmonton Drillers score at home. But the album is far more than filler to support the lead single. "Smalltown" takes the drum 'n' bass thing and adds a heart-rending, working-class feel, while "Amnesia" and "I Want to Strut" are slam-on-the-floor dance tunes.

And the music fans have spoken: *Tubthumping* earned the number-one spot on MuchMusic's video chart and the album has almost reached double-platinum status in Canada.

LILY LOEB Firecracker

Texas-native Lisa Loeb's new record should be a hallmark for her young career; with assistance from famed producer Bob Clearmountain (Roxy Music, Crowded House) and shooting-star solo singer-songwriter Shawn Colvin, *Firecracker* promises to be Loeb's most mature, accomplished and polished work to date.

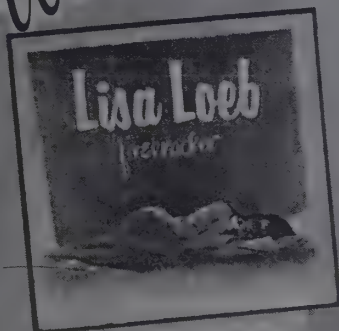
The first single, "I Do," is actually not a fair reflection of the album. It's a wonderful piece of pop-bliss songwriting; but the rest of the album—Loeb herself admits this—is "moody and dark,"



No Doubt



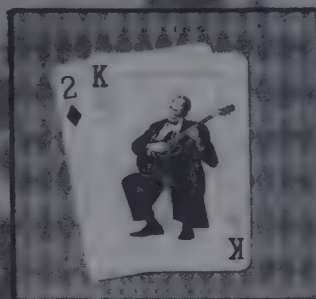
What You Really Want For Christmas



LISA LOEB

"Firecracker"

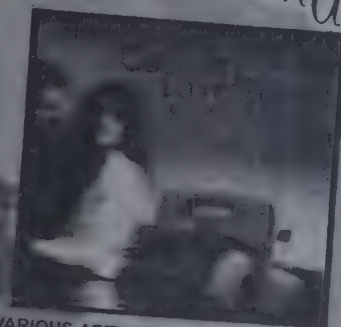
From the girl who brought you "Stay" comes a new album featuring the hit, "I Do."



B.B. KING

"Deuces Wild"

From one of the blues' original masters comes this duets package filled with gems like Eric Clapton, Tracy Chapman, Willie Nelson and many more.



VARIOUS ARTISTS

"The Greatest Country Love Songs Of All Time"

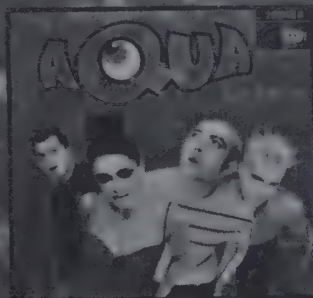
Featuring 40 years of your country favorites from Patsy Cline to Vince Gill, a perfect gift for any man or woman.



SMASH MOUTH

"Fush Yu Mang"

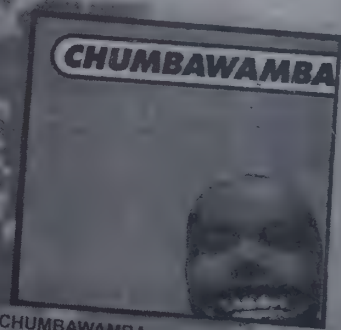
You know the smash single "Walkin' On The Sun." Get into all of Smash Mouth's stuff. Featuring "Why Can't We Be Friends."



AQUA

"Aquarium"

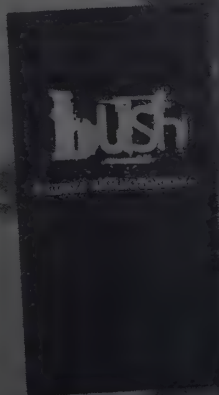
Featuring the infectious song "Barbie Girl" and future hit "Lollipop."



CHUMBAWAMBA

"Tubthumper"

"I get knocked down, but I get up again—you're never gonna keep me down."



BUSH

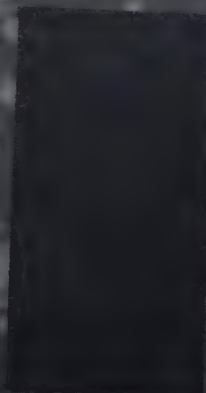
Alleys & Motorways
80 minutes, all 10 of their videos, live performances and much more.



NO DOUBT

Live In The Tragic Kingdom

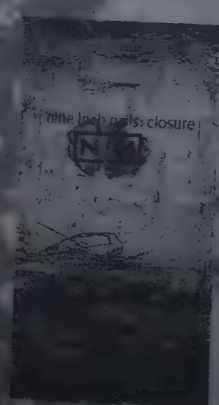
Recorded live in Anaheim, featuring all the hits from Tragic Kingdom and much more. 92 minutes



MARILYN MANSON

Dead To The World

Includes live concert performances and behind-the-scenes footage. 60 minutes



NINE INCH NAILS

Closure Double video

set with special packaging. Tape 1: 60 mins. of never-before-seen live concert performances. Tape 2: 60 mins. featuring all-NIN videos (unedited).



Suggestions For the Season...



B.B. KING
The Wild



WIDE MOUTH MASON
Faint To Me



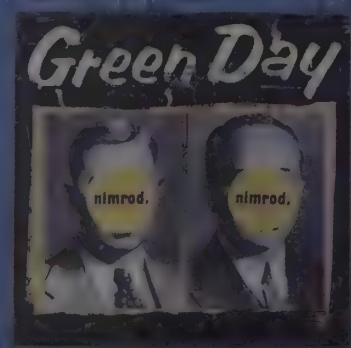
the greatest
Country Love
Songs of all time



WIDE MOUTH MASON
Wide Mouth Mason



STEVE EARLE
El Corazón



GREEN DAY
Nimrod



CELINE DION
Let's Talk About Love



CHANTAL KREVIAZUK
Under These Rocks and Stones



THE FIRM
The Album



FINDER

Page 9 • Style

Check out our full-color, full-page spread featuring the hottest looks for the Christmas season—glamor wear perfect for those black-tie Christmas functions.

Page 12 • Travel

It's an adventure. The sight-seeing is incredible. There are Buddhas anywhere and everywhere. But when it comes to comfort and luxury, Bangkok and the rest of Thailand won't finish high on any "best-of" lists.

Page 17 • Music

Local electronic fusion band Paragon are becoming regulars on the A-Channel. But, thanks to the trio's bombardment of the World Wide Web, interest in the band is cropping up in faraway places like Italy and France.

Page 22 • Visual Arts

A new visual arts show sponsored in part by ND MLA Raj Pannu will focus on the work of the impoverished.

Page 25 • Cover

Ontario native Neve Campbell has achieved the status of teen heartthrob with her role in *Party of Five*. Now she reprises her horror-queen role in *Scream 2*, the sequel to Wes Craven's sleeper '96 box-office hit.

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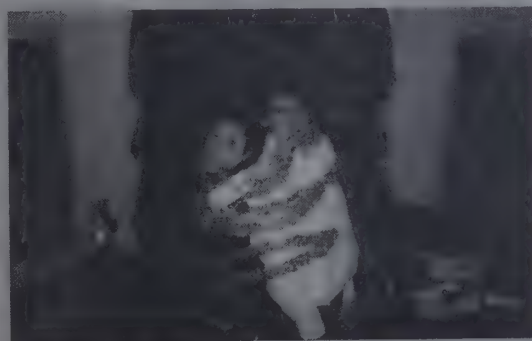
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Terry Morrison (far left) and Bill Bourne (far right) will head up *The Christmas Carol Project*, which is back for a second year thanks to popular demand. For more, see Page 14.



Bridget Ryan and Damien Atkins will head up a very different Christmas show this year. *The 2 Janes of Christmas* will hit the stage this week. For more, turn to Page 21.

SIDETRACK

SHOWTIME
9:00 PM
NIGHTLY

DECEMBER 11-13

The Rockin' Highliners

SWING JUMP BLUES

DECEMBER 15

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Painting Daisies

DECEMBER 16

SWINGIN' TUESDAYS

Zappacosta

DECEMBER 17

Mark Sterling & his Blues Compadres

DECEMBER 18-19

Godiva

A DISCO INFERNO AND
GROOVY RETRO TUNES

DECEMBER 20

Kit Kat Club

SIRENS OF THE 60'S

DECEMBER 22

NEW-MUSIC-MONDAYS

HOSTED BY

Bill Bourne

DECEMBER 23

SWINGIN' TUESDAYS

Jeff Hendrick Group

DECEMBER 26

BOXING DAY BASH Mike Plume Band

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Book entrepreneur hopes to repeat Whyte success

Used bookshop owner stays away from over-saturated Old Strathcona

FEATURE

BY SARKEN BOISVERT

In a market supposedly saturated by bookstores and books—with Chapters and West Edmonton Mall as major competitors in the Edmonton book industry—it seems a foolhardy decision to try to make a go of it with a small general book-store.

But if you have been down Jasper Avenue lately, out along 112 Street, you might have noticed that a new business has recently opened. Clea's Bookshop (11217 Jasper Avenue), run by proprietor Kenny Hawkins, is the newest addition to Edmonton's collection of new and used bookstores.

Hawkins tried for several months to entice both banks and lending institutions to finance her dream of a bookstore. They all turned her down. Explains Hawkins, "You need money to get money. Even with my mom backing me, they wouldn't give me a cent."

Hawkins' mom is the owner of The Bookshop in Lethbridge. With the lack of any funding from outside sources, Hawkins borrowed \$40,000 worth of stock from her mom, decided to defy the odds and opened her store anyway. She now has the store, some books and two part-time employees. All she needs now is to sell her stock.

The store is very much an extension of Hawkins' personality, in that it will have focus on the metaphysical and healing aspects of life.

"People are getting back to basics," says Hawkins. "I wanted to have a general bookstore because people have general interests. I also want this store to be a place of learning...a learning center with sessions on Reiki, Feng-shui and holistic themes."

Hawkins is aware of the difficulties in making her dream succeed. She estimates that it will take a year for her store to become self-sufficient. In that vein, she is continuing in her job as a waitress during the evenings.

Location, location, location

Steve Connor, manager of the Wee Book Inn on Whyte Avenue, gives Hawkins full credit for opening the store but is skeptical about her success.

"Location. Location. Location. There have been two or three used bookstores in that area that have failed in the last few years," says Connor, although he admits that he knows very little about running a new book store.

He does, however, know all about the used book industry. In the 10 years that he has been an employee of the Wee Book Inn, Connor has seen competing bookstores come and go, fires damage two Wee Book Inn stores within weeks of each other and red paint

spilled onto his store's pornographic magazines.

Connor says the Wee Book Inn's success is due as much for its business location as it is for the excellent service they give their customers.

"This is a community-based business. We get to know our customers. We have this one regular customer who comes in all the time. The staff knows what she has read and what she hasn't. We will hide away for her the books she needs," explains Connor. "We see everyone from the chronically unemployed to the guy who bought one paperback with a platinum card. We even have this one lady who will only deal with 'her girls.'"

His store is fortunate to be where it is—today. The Whyte Ave. location opened up 26 years ago, complete with the famous cat. It has grown from a tiny hole in the wall to a two-storey extravaganza with books, magazines, antiques, CDs and videos. Its business relies mostly on walk-by traffic with almost no advertising to bring in customers. It sells a staggering 8,000-10,000 books a month.

Old Strathcona pregnant

When the Wee Book Inn opened, Whyte Avenue hadn't yet experienced the coffee shop and bar explosion. It was a seedy and decrepit part of town, famous for pawn shops and strip bars. It was a very unlikely place to find a bookstore. Gail Greenwood remembers that even in 1979, when the three Greenwood siblings opened Greenwood's Bookshoppe, it was still a rough part of town.

Opening up on the same block as the old Tracy Starr's strip joint must have been a brave choice at the time but Greenwood explains, "Old Strathcona was pregnant at the time, just giving birth really... the University area needed a bookstore, even though Aspen opened a year before us. The Tipton Block was renovated and they were fixing up the area. Retail made the area attractive."

Along with the Tipton Block, Greenwood's became an anchor in the Old Strathcona community and has evolved into one of the most successful independent bookstores in Edmonton.

Greenwood credits the success of their store to a few things, "Part of it was timing, part of it was luck, part of it was hard work. There is way more to this business than just sitting around and reading books."

She is proud of the rapport her staff has with their customers and the level of trust that has evolved between them. The staff at Greenwood's are all well-read. The Staff Choices section is as much of a trademark of Greenwood's as are the cats in the Wee Book Inn.

Back in 1979, it wasn't any easier to get funding from the banks. To raise money for the bookstore, the Greenwood parents put up the family home as collateral on a bank

loan for the start-up capital. Gail Greenwood sees the similarities between what her and her siblings went through to open their store and the story of Kenny Hawkins. Still, she says that she wouldn't recommend that anyone open a new bookstore.

Hawkins realizes the odds are against her, yet she is unabashedly confident. In her face you can see the same pride in her 112th Street community Gail Greenwood has when talking about Old Strathcona.

"My neighborhood," says Hawkins, "has gone from nothing to the current building [stage]. I want to be a part of the growth. I am a very community-minded person. When I first told my friends about my idea of a store, they said that it sounded perfect for Whyte Avenue. That was the last thing that I wanted to do—go to Whyte Avenue."

When she heard Connor's business advice about 'location', Hawkins laughed. She says that she didn't consider any other location. Her heart was set on the block where Clea's now stands. "It's not that people don't want to stay here, there just isn't any reason to stay," says Hawkins.

Her bookstore is located near the Grabbajabba and the Second Cup coffee shops. There is a Joey Tomatoes across the street and a mailbox store next door. Like the Wee Book Inn, she is relying on walk-in business to support her. She cannot afford to advertise.

She feels that with the addition of her store, there is now a place for the people to buy a funky card or gift. She carries children's books as well, because she knows that people love to buy them as gifts. She wants her store to be a meeting place—an anchor in the community.

She has lived in the area ever since she moved to Edmonton from Lethbridge four years ago and feels a deep connection to both the com-

munity and the people. She describes it as a young middle-class neighborhood. "There is a lot of youth in the community, even if they are 70 years old," says Hawkins.

The community

It is unquestionably a growing community. With the addition of the Grant MacEwan campus downtown and the LRT link to the university it has made the 112 Street area more attractive to students looking to avoid the high rent along Whyte Avenue. There is also the sense that Old Strathcona has grown to its limit and there is room in Edmonton for other outdoor retail centers.

With the continuing decline of the downtown business core and the increasing boredom with West Edmonton Mall, the rise of community retail centres is becoming more and more commonplace. Walking to a bookstore and having a coffee is becoming more popular than driving miles to a mall.

As to the risk that she is taking in her community and her personal life, Hawkins asserts, "It is the age of being innovative. All my friends really respect what I am doing. Everyone thinks that it is so important that someone is stepping out. Everyone is so supportive."

She is stepping out in many ways. Like the Wee Book Inn and Greenwood's Bookshoppe in Old Strathcona before her, Hawkins feels that her community is ready to support and be supported by a local bookstore.

Greenwood describes the relationship that grows between a community and a bookstore, "There really is a 'hooked on books'. The history... the stories... even news can hinge on a book. Bookstores create conversation, stimulate your mind—they become a meeting place—a hub in the community."

THEY TAKE HOME THE SWAG

Two weeks ago in our Inside Books section, we ran three separate contests. Here are the winners:

Edmonton's Barb Hanley wins a copy of Margie Taylor's *Some of Skippy's Blues* by correctly identifying Paul Shaffer, David Letterman's sidekick, as the famed nighttime talk-show celebrity who hails from Taylor's hometown of Thunder Bay, Ont.

Edmonton's Ken Goutbeck wins a copy of Peter Gzowski's *The Morning-side Years* (with accompanying CD) for knowing that the grand man of the CBC once wrote for the Edmonton Oilers' program guide.

And the winner of the autographed galley copy of Will Self's *Great Apes* is St. Albert's June Mah, who correctly identified *Quantity Theory of Insanity* as a previous Self work.

And, from *In The Box*: Edmonton's Mike Pieters is the proud owner of Douglas Hunter's wonderfully-illustrated new book, *Champions: The Illustrated History of Hockey's Greatest Dynasties*. He is the winner of our guess-the-attendance-in-Greensboro contest. Mike guessed that 6,666 people would show up (gee, we hope there wasn't anything Satanic represented by that number) to watch the Carolina Hurricanes host the Phoenix Coyotes. That game was played last Friday; in fact, 6,793 people turned out to watch the Hurricanes and the Coyotes skate to an exciting 2-2 draw. Pieters wins because he was the closest to the actual attendance without going over.

VUEnews

by Steven Sandor

A look back at the week that was...

Christmas charities need last-second help

Last year, Santa's Anonymous, the toy drive for the needy coordinated by CHED Radio, gave out around 22,000 gifts to Edmonton and area kids.

So far, 12,000 toys have been collected for this year's drive, but Santa's Anonymous chairperson Gary Draeger says that at least another 10,000 toys will be needed within the next 10 days.

"We have the kids covered who are in the program so far—it's a relief that we have enough toys to give to the 12,000 or so kids we already have. But last year we ended up giving out over 22,000 toys and we're expecting our final count to be around 22,000 to 25,000 this year. We're expecting about 10,000 kids to show during the last week."

So, even though the stats currently sit at 12,000 toys for 12,000 kids, Draeger fully expects the crush to be on for his organization.

"The thing that's tough is the deadline to start delivering gifts is coming up. We are going to start dropping gifts off on Dec. 20 and we're expecting that we are going to need many more gifts to fill the need. Plus, we need time to wrap them and then get them to where they're needed."

Santa's Anonymous has drop-off boxes stationed in all major Edmonton shopping malls. Donations of new, unwrapped toys can be made at any of its locations.

Tix on the Square gets funding relief

The Edmonton Arts Council got the OK on a \$25,000 loan this week, which means that the wicket will remain open at the Tix on the Square booth.

The Tix on the Square kiosk opened eight months ago, designed as a rush ticket office and an outlet for promoting local arts groups. Administered by the EAC and located on Churchill Square next to city hall, Tix on the Square is designed to follow a three-year business plan.

"The funding means that Tix on the Square will be able to stay in

operation," said EAC executive director Josh Keller. "It will enable us to continue with the three-year business plan and build on the positives which we have seen over the last few months."

And what exactly are the positives? 1.) Traffic has increased at the kiosk, both as a regular ticket office and as a rush booth; 2.) More arts organizations are making themselves available to the Tix on the Square project; 3.) Smaller, community-based arts organizations have also been utilizing Tix on the Square.

Funding cut drives filmmakers out

Many local filmmakers have griped about the government's 1996 decision to chop the Alberta Motion Picture Development Corporation. Thanks to a new set of stats flogged by Liberal Edmonton Centre MLA Laurie Blakeman, it looks like the naysayers may have a point.

Since the shutdown of the AMPDC, film and TV work in Alberta has declined by 70 per cent. In a letter to Treasurer Stockwell Day,

Blakeman states that \$107 million in lost production investment is now spent in other provinces.

In 1996, filmmakers spent \$153 million in Alberta and created an estimated 1,195 jobs in the film and TV industry. Of that, \$100 million was invested by production companies based outside of Canada. In 1997, only \$46 million dollars worth of film and TV was shot in Alberta and foreign investment tailed off by \$70 million. Only 360 jobs were created in '97.

Blakeman feels that the lost production can be brought back to Alberta with the introduction of a refundable tax credit, the same plan which has been endorsed by the Alberta Motion Pictures Industry Association.

"By implementing this strategy we can re-acquire the business and jobs that were lost and increase the investments that are made in Alberta by this vibrant industry," writes Blakeman.

A strike's just as bad as war

Canada Post is trying to breathe some life into its annual kids-write-to-Santa campaign

In a press release dressed up as an actual letter from Santa, Canada Post pledges that it will do its utmost to catch up with the kids' letters to the North Pole (postal code, HOH OHO).

In this release, "Santa" states, "It is true that I know who has been naughty and who has been

nice. I also have a pretty good idea of what each of you would like for Christmas.

"Unfortunately, around the world, there are situations that we cannot control. Children live in areas where there are wars, floods and even postal strikes..."

Oh, great. Canada Post has Santa equating a child suffering through a postal strike to a kid in Sarajevo celebrating Christmas as an orphan. Does anyone proof-read these things before they go out? Easily, this wins Tacky, Tasteless Media Shill of the Year.

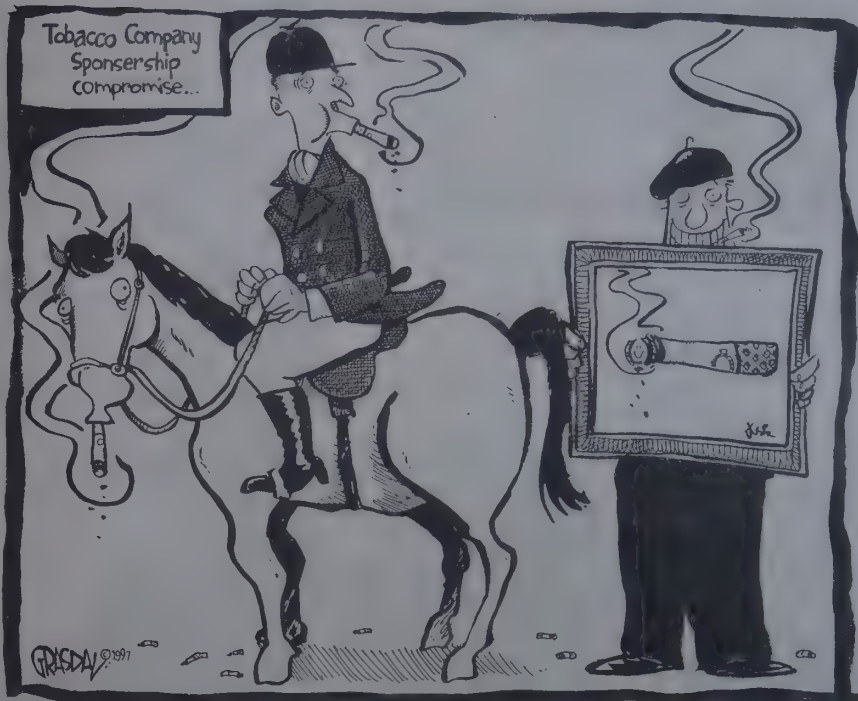
Shaw, Drillers ink TV deal

The Oilers may have a new home on A-Channel, but Peter Pocklington's other Coliseum-based sports franchise has just inked a new TV deal.

Shaw Cable will carry four Drillers indoor soccer games this season, kicking off with the team's Dec. 21 clash against the Buffalo Blizzard. Jan. 22 (NPSL champs Kansas City Attack), Feb. 1 (Baltimore Spirit) and March 1 (St. Louis Ambush) are the other broadcast dates.

The games will be carried on Shaw (channel 10) and Videotron (channel 74).

Mike English will call the play-by-play, Bruce Rakoczy (the Drillers director of operations) will play the role of color man. Chris Durham (from Videotron's *The Edge* and a pretty decent soccer player in his own right) will host the games



VUEPOINT

BY LESLEY PRIMEAU

Conference on kids damns Tories

The Dignity Foundation makes an effort to balance the playing field for the province's disenfranchised. The Dignity Foundation has no real power but hopes through awareness we—as the citizens of the province—will recognize that all Albertans should be equal, not just those the Klein Kowboys choose.

A couple of weekends ago, the Foundation held a conference in Calgary dealing with the abysmal way in which the provinces not only deals with but views children. Kathleen Mahoney made an interesting comment on the state of child welfare in the province. "...Alberta will be given good marks for serving able-bodied children from middle-class families, for serving children who speak English as a first language, for serving white children and for serving heterosexual children with the exception of sex education in schools. Alberta must be given bad marks for how we are treating children with disabilities, children with single parents, children who are native, children who do not speak English as a first language, poor children and children who are gay, lesbian or bi-sexual."

Kind of makes you wonder—who does this government serve!

When this government is queried about its refusal to endorse the United Nations Convention on the Rights of the Child, it simply says "we are in compliance with the standards of the convention." Of course that would be a huge comfort to a starving child with no home and no hope of anything better.

But wait. How many times on my program have I heard people tell me that starving children are really a result of deadbeat parents who choose not to be responsible for their kids? Ooh, talk about simplistic.

During the conference a number of qualified speakers noted their concerns and a number of alarming stats were released on the state of those less fortunate—none of them very flattering for the government. But still it denies the problem.

What really amazed me was this little stat, according to the Oxfam Human Rights Initiative there are more food banks in Alberta than Mickey D's. And let me tell you, McDonald's isn't going broke here! And here's a sobering thought, a single parent with children in Alberta—employed full-time at minimum wage—earns \$10,000 a year. Bet they contribute to the Tory coffers.

All the stats are gloomy. The prospects for so many in this province are dim, but here's my bitch. I couldn't find any mainstream media at this conference. All I could find was an article in the *Calgary Herald* quoting Lyle Oberg on the number of new folks coming here looking for work and how his department was bracing for the pressure they were putting on children's services...duh!

Where are the major hacks of this province? Why aren't they reporting on this conference, why wasn't there more interest in the children of the province? It occurs to me the media interest in children is very reflective of the general interest in children here. Why worry? They can't vote, they don't have money and, more importantly, their parents are no-bodies.

Maybe it's high time we re-named Children's Services in this province. We could simply call it Children's Dis-services, it seems more apt.

Lesley Primeau may be heard weeknights from 6-9 p.m. on 630 CHED.

CONSPIRACY!

Jason Margolis' Conspiracy Theories column will take a break, as he's taking paternity tests to find out whether indeed he is the father of Dana Scully's child. No, of course, we know the *X-Files* is fiction. Actually, Jason has been abducted by grey men with big eyes. He's having a great time and should be sending us a postcard from Alpha Centauri sometime soon.

Fawcett's brisk satire a rude awakening

BOOKS

BY DORA ABERCROMBIE

I must break with a cherished convention of Canadian literary criticism and confess up front that Brian Fawcett is a great friend of mine.

Never mind that he is habitually rude to me or that he once described me as the most foul-mouthed, aggressive woman he's ever met. Brian bestows such compliments (and that is a compliment) only rarely and reserves his most amusing pugnacities for his friends. But not any longer. It is because Fawcett's latest book is the most accurate reflection of his in-person personality (as opposed to his bad-boy literary persona).

The Disbeliever's Dictionary is, like Fawcett, very funny and very rude. And also very thoughtful. That comes as no surprise; earlier Fawcett books include *Gender Wars: a novel and some conversation about sexuality and gender* (half of that book is brilliant, the other half was written while Brian had apparently lodged his head in his ass—this is an old argument); *Public Eye* (which I haven't read. Brian says "it's so fucking nutty I can't explain it in 25 words or less.") and *The Compact Garden*. Brian, a passionate gardener, says his clearest political statement is contained in one page of this book (which is a ridiculous thing to say).

Fawcett's most important achievement is *Cambodia: a book for people who find television too slow*, which is in its sixth Canadian printing and has sold 80,000 copies worldwide. It's one of the smartest and most important books I've ever read. It's one of those seminal books. It's the kind of book that makes you think there are two kinds of people in the world: those who have read *Cambodia* (and therefore have an inkling of what's going on) and those who really ought to.

The point of telling you how smart Fawcett is (when he's not being ridiculous) is so you will know *The Disbeliever's Dictionary* is not one of those humor books that merely reflect your own thoughts back to you in an ironic/witty way. Like every book Fawcett writes, *The Disbeliever's Dictionary* contains original thinking and will inspire you to examine—and possibly revise your political and theoretical stance.

From the introduction: "Canadians have never had to live with imperial pride, we haven't had to suffer through compulsory flag-waving jingoism, we're not compelled, by law or sense of obligation, to learn the dubious art of brandishing automatic rifles at all those foreigners who don't believe our country is on a special

mission from God. We're defined, in large degree, by our relative freedom as perpetrators or victims, from nearly all the defining cruelties, injustices and stupidities of the 20th Century. It is the things we haven't been that define us."

Fawcett wrote this book because he suspects we aren't going to be able to remain lily-white much longer. We are about to become cruel, unjust and stupid. He uses his dictionary to point fingers at the architects of our crumbling. And while he's in the neighborhood, he blows big raspberries, even at people and places he likes—and it's a hoot to watch him do it.

Here's an abridged sample. Don Cherry: "Canadian hockey's one-man *Beavis and Butt-head*. A man who can perch at the edge of self-destruction on national television as long as Cherry has isn't stupid. Whatever else Cherry is—and he is many things, most of them direct and decent—he's life's revenge on people like Perrin Beatty."

Distinct Societies: "Semantic maneuver by the Federal government designed to legitimize Quebec separatist need to suppress foreign languages, build hydroelectric megaprojects, and be exploited by France and the United States rather than Canada. Every other political entity in Canada, including the Boy Scouts, has subsequently demanded the same right. In fact, our constitution, our education system and our mothers have been guaranteeing this for fifty years. Wouldn't it be more constructive if we were asking to be 'unusual,' 'attractive,' 'reasonable' or—dare we ask this?—'functional' societies? So here's the solution: Quebec is a francophone society."

Northrop Frye: "Speed typist and biblical scholar....His opus, while not toxic in and of itself, has led to a functional separation between those who create literature and those who process it for industrial reasons, and has virtually ended any serious study of domestic literature in the country...an extremely decent and witty man."

Galiano Island: Those not wearing Birkenstock sandals are ridiculed and given vitamin enemas, then deported."

Those aren't the funniest. I hate it when I buy a book only to discover the best parts were already revealed in a review. And now I am going to break with yet another cherished journalistic convention. I'm going to e-mail this draft to Fawcett, partly because he picks up my spelling mistakes, partly to elicit a heated response (now that I've predicted he'll flame me, he won't) and partly because it amuses me to annoy him.

Brian Fawcett's response: "It's

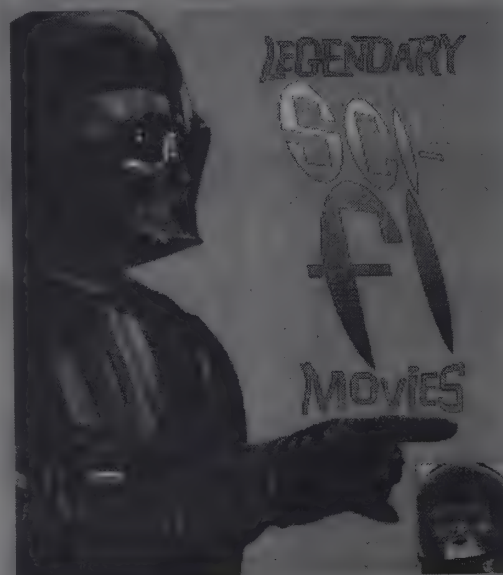
pretty flippant, but otherwise fine, because it makes it sound readable, which most books aren't any more. But you should check the spelling errors: (Serios, Cheery, etc.), just like I'm checking them in the book. Incidentally, one of the Toronto Swordsgirls came up to me at the launch, now a woman in her 60s, and corrected the spelling of the Swordsman's Club. It was spelled Swordsman's Club. (see Pierre Berton.) P.S. I hate correct-

ing reviews of my books. Don't ever do this again or I'll have to report you to the guys down at *Books In Canada*, and they'll go to the boys at *Saturday Night*, and then you'll have to leave Edmonton forever."

Brian Fawcett
The Disbeliever's Dictionary

Somerville House; 179 pages; \$14.95

Sci-fi a serious topic in colorful tome



BOOKS

BY STEVEN SANDOR

Most of the time, coffee-table books are well-illustrated, colorful tomes in which the writing is well-researched but not that thoughtful. After all, the coffee-table book is usually designed to promote its subject—just think of the myriad of heroes-of-hockey or travel books you have seen in the big-picture section of the bookstore.

But Peter Guttmacher's *Legendary Sci-Fi Movies* is a refreshing change. It is not a schlocky celebration of sci-fi from '50s Ed Wood films to the *Star Wars* phenomenon; it is a critical examination of the genre. Sure, like most coffee-table books, it is wonderfully illustrated, but it sorts the movies by how they fit historically and sociologically into the sci-fi world. And Guttmacher's critiques aren't glossed-over rehashes of the film bump; instead he describes why a film was important

and the messages the viewer should look for.

Sure, there is some schlock added for fun (there's a few brain-busting trivia quizzes scattered throughout the book), but the book should give the novice film viewer the basis to understand why '50s sci-fi like *The Day the Earth Stood Still* and *Forbidden Planet* should be treated as film classics, not camp. Guttmacher does the genre a service by taking it seriously.

One complaint, Guttmacher glosses over one of the best science-fiction films ever made: Ridley Scott's *Alien* (1979). While the series has become a cash cow, the original *Alien* flick showed that horror and sci-fi could cross-pollinate without camping each other up. The film was a hallmark for the genre and deserves more than the one-page kiss-off it gets in this volume.

Peter Guttmacher
Legendary Sci-Fi Movies
MetroBooks; 128 pp.; Price may vary

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LOCAL TROUBADOURS EARN CHRISTMAS SALUTE

While we enter the so-called "giving season" and the big retailer's dream of a better-than-last-year-sales, it's very special and spiritually rewarding to notice that among the "seasonal gifts" one can find acts of love—some might say rebellion—that invite those who care to listen and notice to think a bit more carefully about how we conduct our passage through this planet.

I'm especially referring to the conscience raising communal gatherings of the past few weeks in support of various worthy causes, such as the Huron Caroles (Food Bank) to the Instruments for Change (street kids in Nicaragua) to the Stop the Cheviot Mine rally taking place Dec. 11 at the Legislature.

All these events have one thing in common; music—progressive and powerful local music that accompanies and speaks to these issues and the people who work on them year 'round.

I have the privilege of knowing

some of the performers involved in these happenings. Their generosity, their capacity to love others and to give is known to many. I also know that they do not expect to be paraded or nominated to some big human rights or environmental award.

They speak/sing the truth with honor and integrity. Recognize that injustices—whether here or abroad—in the streets of Managua or downtown Edmonton, must be addressed and dealt with by our societies now.

Which brings me to the point of this note. It's rare that our local troubadours get the thanks they deserve for often underpaid and many times unpaid work. We take this opportunity to salute with pride people such as Dale Ladouceur, Bill Bourne, Painting Daisies, Raymihuara, Lester Quitzau, the Mavens, Terry Morrison and Mike McDonald, to name just a few.

Their songs and courage to say what needs and must be said will keep us strong!

Leo Campos,
Edmonton

THE NUTCRACKER

"In a word ... stupendous!" (Regina Leader Post)

Alberta Ballet joins the Edmonton Symphony Orchestra, local dance students and local choirs to create the magic that is *The Nutcracker*!

"(Pourfarrok's) *The Nutcracker* is a beautifully conceived fairy tale jewel." (CALGARY HERALD)

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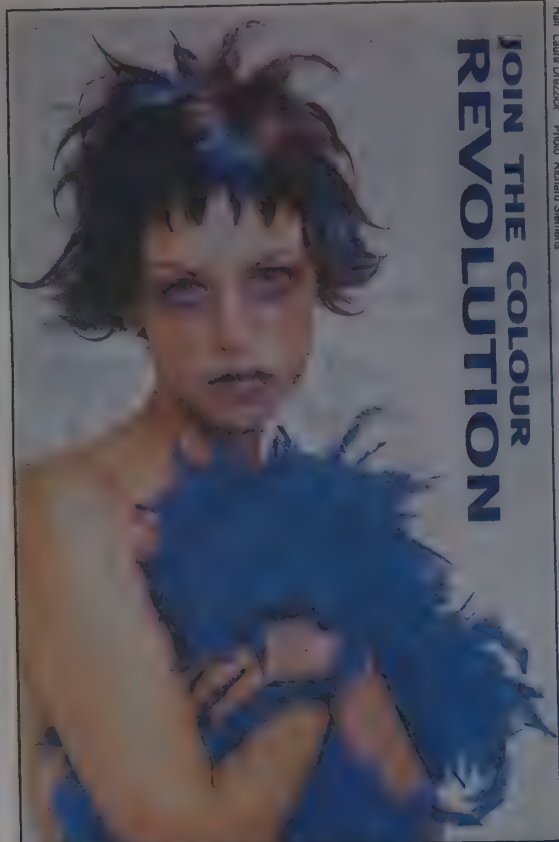
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HOLIDAY tips for the traveling freeloader

HUMOR

BY JARON SUMMERS

Happy holidays. If you're like many people, you might be flying this December.

As my Christmas gift to you, here are a few handy travel tips. They're perfect for the holiday season or any other time.

Suppose you're going to New York. Since there are no direct flights from Edmonton, you may find yourself with a layover of several hours in a place like the Salt Lake City airport.

What to do?

You could try to figure out how to get into one of the first-class VIP lounges.

But why not check your bags, then take a free bus to the Marriott Hotel in the city centre and spend a couple of hours there?

Most Marriott lobbies have soft sofas and half-a-dozen concessions—coffee houses to ice cream stands. There's free reading material.

The Salt Lake Marriott is linked to a huge mall where you can get a delicious snack for a third the price it would cost you at the airport. You can walk to Temple Square and see how it's been decorated for Christmas.

Please, no cracks about polygamy. You will be outnumbered by Mormons—and in large groups, they can turn nasty.

When you're ready to return to the airport, take the free Marriott bus.

(Don't be cheap, tip the driver).

You'll have enjoyed a few fun hours, you'll have seen parts of a city you hadn't seen before and you'll have escaped the airport. Cost: minimal.

Remember, all cities with large airports have super-nice hotels close by. Most of the hotels have wonderful lobbies with fun shops. It's nearly always a free ride in clean and comfortable hotel buses.

Speaking of free rides, ever been in the middle of a city and wished you had your car? Just stop by any one of a dozen car dealerships and mention to eager sales people that you're thinking of moving to the city and you might like to buy a Mercedes.

The next thing you know you're on a quick tour of the city while a pleasant salesman tries to sell you a car and the city at the same time. Sometimes you'll be trusted with the car on your own.

Resist the urge to "borrow it" and drive yourself back to the airport even if you're running late. The local cops know the city better than you do so they'll usually catch you. I've found it's almost impossible "to make bail" in a strange town.

Now what about those first-class lounges back at the airport? How do you get in them? Joining a VIP club could set you back several hundred dollars a year.

It's much simpler to stand near the VIP door, wait for a card-carrying member to appear and say, patting your pocket, "Gosh, I left my card at home, can I go in with you?"

If you have a nice smile (and avoid picking your nose), the answer is nearly always "yes" since the guy (or the gal) with the card can take in two guests for free.

Once inside the VIP club you can relax in luxury and enjoy free soft drinks and coffee. The better clubs serve snacks around noon and dinner time. Nearly all offer free local telephone calls. (Idea: Call a Mercedes dealership and arrange for a test ride).

After your vacation, you'll return to Edmonton.

Picture yourself cold and shivering, waiting for public transportation.

Wouldn't you rather have a warm ride in a new limo? Cheap.

Go to the upper arrivals level and wait until someone shows up in a limo. After the driver has unloaded the baggage and walked his fare into the airport, ask if he's driving an empty limo back to the city.

He will say he is.

Ask him if he can take you back and offer him \$10, one quarter of the taxi fare. Most of the time the driver'll agree since, 1.) it's more than his tip, 2.) he can't solicit a fare and 3.) it's found money for him.

Be polite and smile.

All he can do is say "no," besides, in another three minutes, there'll usually be another limo. There's no law against asking for a ride, there is a law prohibiting driv-

ers from offering rides. So ask. If the driver absolutely refuses to drive you back, do not hurl stones at his vehicle.

There's a law against that.

Speaking of free rides, do you realize that corporate jets leave the municipal airport daily to all sorts of destinations? You might be able to hitch a free ride to say, New York especially if you're an attractive and well-groomed college student.

You may have to develop a relationship with some of the ground support staff and you'll have to be flexible but you'd be amazed how many people fly for free to far away and often exotic places. Never threaten to blow up their plane if wealthy people won't let you ride with them. When it comes to terrorist situations, the rich have zero humor or tolerance.

By the way, next time you board a commercial flight, take a small box of chocolates.

While the flight attendant delivers the safety announcement, stop what you're doing and pay close attention.

When the flight attendant comes by later to take your order for a drink, give him or her the chocolates and say: "You did a great job of explaining those safety tips. It's wonderful to be on a carrier where the flight attendants are so professional. I'm going to write a terrific letter about you to your company."

The flight attendants will remember you from the safety announcement because you were the only one paying attention—everyone else was talking or trying to see down their blouses. You'll get better treatment than if you paid for a first-class seat. Everything from free drinks to free headsets. Flight attendants have tremendous discretionary power when it comes to doling out freebies.

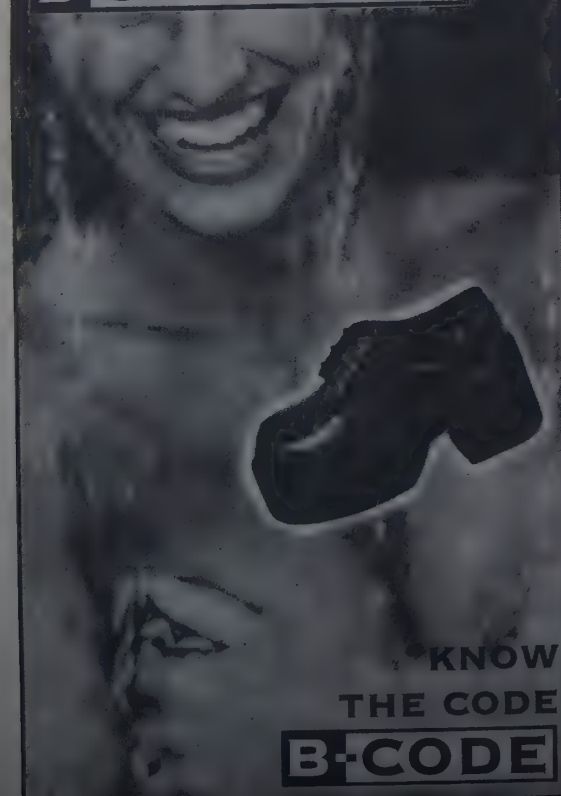
As a bonus, paying attention to the safety announcement could save your life. If not, at least you'll be the first person out of the plane before it fireballs.

Trust me. My wife's a flight attendant.

Have a great holiday.

When Jaron is not freeloading in first-class lounges, you can reach him at: jaronsummers@AOL.com

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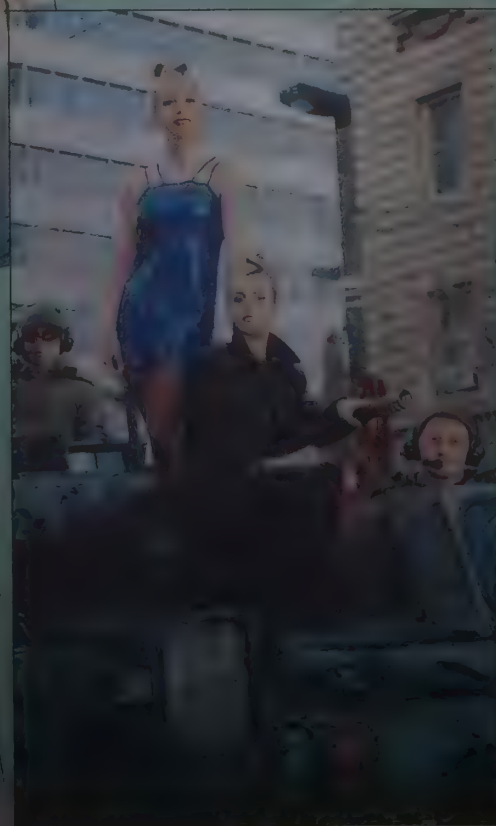
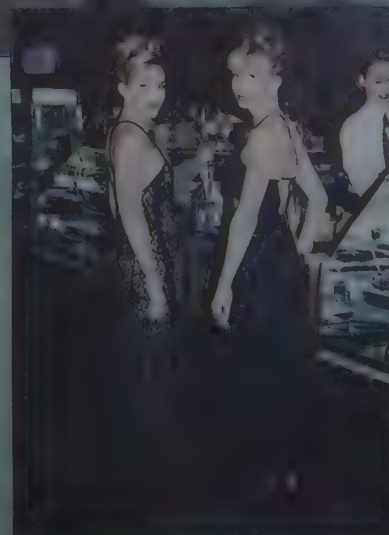
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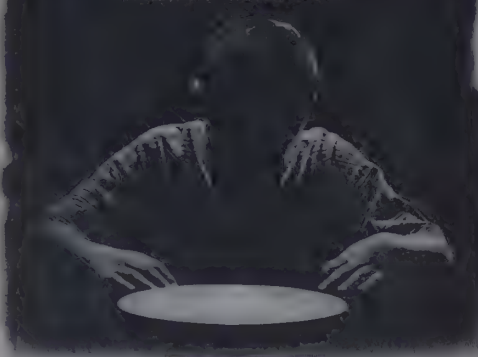
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Fall Lines

BY HART GOLDBECK AND COLIN "ZEKE THE SKI FREAK" CATHERA

Guess who won the South American World Extreme Skiing Championships in Argentina last September? Wendy Fisher of Crested Butte, Col. The 26-year-old tried a deadly chute that none of the men dared to try and cleaned them all. Says Wendy, "Don't do anything idiotic if there's nobody

there to see you. I'll huck myself off anything—but only if there's a crowd." What a woman!

Those poor souls at Whistler. They spend \$1.5 million on snow-making equipment so a repeat of last year's cancellation of the World Cup downhill won't happen—and the race gets canceled because of too much snow. Makes you wonder if El Niño is not just a warm water current but a spirit that floats around earth trying to figure out who to piss off next.

To help avoid another tragic incident like the one at Fortress where four

teens were killed by an avalanche while skiing and snowboarding in an out-of-bounds-area, here's a tip. Call the Canadian Avalanche Association at 1-800-667-1105.

In an effort to reduce lift lines in southern Ontario, they have started installing six-person high-speed chairlifts at some of the resorts. The chairs can carry up to 3,600 people per hour.

In the Gunbarrel Saloon at Apex Mountain Resort near Penticton, B.C. they use a double-barrel shotgun to pour your drinks.



Zeke's Ski Tips

BY COLIN "ZEKE THE SKI FREAK" CATHERA

Focus on extreme, part III

For my third instalment focusing on extreme skiing, I'll cover body awareness and equipment. There are some great things you can do when you're not on the hill to help get your body and brain in X-mode.

Sports that have a "shredder" attitude not only can get you in shape but prepare your brain for on-the-edge-thinking. Some of my favorites are indoor soccer and mountain biking. I don't ride like a wild banshee all the time—judging by the number of fork replacements—often enough. I guess this also holds true with the amount of time in the penalty box at the soccer centre. Slalom turns on your roller blades are a great practice exercise for re-enforcing muscle memory. Try hopping back and forth going up and down the stairs at work. The boss might think you've lost your mind, fire you and then you can

ski every day.

Update your equipment. Soft, comfy boots will not give you the edge control to pull off high-speed turns. The ability to stay balanced over your skis in extreme conditions has to do with muscle power and your boots. All-mountain skis can help you in adverse conditions. Some shaped skis are excellent in crud and steeps. Prepare ahead of time with good double-lens goggles and all the protective gear you need. You can't push the envelope sitting in the chalet.

If you see it, you can do it. Visualize the turns you're about to make down a section of the mountain that pushes your boundaries. Copy a skier's style you like. Picture the position your hands should be in before you launch off a cliff. These things not only help with self-confidence but successful outcomes.

Welcome to El Niño, Canada eh?

OK, if we wanted to live in Medicine Hat, we would. Last time I read a tourist brochure we were called the land of the Great White North.

Great Grey North, maybe. This weather is not a problem for the media folks who tell us what's happening from their live-cam sets. They love not freezing in front of 600,000 people. However, to Edmontonians who actually use this northern exposure to have some good wholesome fun, we are looking for a big fat dump of snow.

The thought of deep taups being the color of winter for 1997/98 is not all good. If this is Edmonton's destiny, the bus for Medicine Hat leaves at 5 p.m.

(Marc McConnell)

SNOW BOARD

Just Ride it

If you are spending a lot of your time riding the same kind of lift, this same kind of snow conditions, you are just not getting the most out of your equipment or self.

Each time you rise up your boots, mix up the kind of terrain you spend your time on. Keep your goggles on the lookout for terrain you haven't ridden yet. As most of the areas around Edmonton you can always find hits, trees, slight steep patches, lots of groomed, crud, flats and, if you are lucky, ice. By riding as many different conditions as possible, you will force yourself to make the subtle adjustments required for each new condition. Don't avoid difficult or happy conditions or worse stay home because the conditions are not just right for you. (Kenne Simon)

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ENTRY DEADLINE DECEMBER 19

AREA

by Hart Golbeck

Marmot's open signals beginning of winter

The mercury has finally dipped and snow is starting to fall in the Rockies. With a much-welcomed 40 cm dump last week, Marmot officially opened its doors and the lifts are running.

Although early-season snow conditions exist and not all lifts and runs are open, it's always great to get out and enjoy these mountains.

Marmot is one of Edmontonians' favorite ski resorts and with the opening of the new Caribou Chalet, it only gets better. The base chalet is now 32,000 sq. ft. with all amenities, including the new Little Rascals Nursery and the Caribou Café—new and improved. This year even promises a new Snowboard Park!

If you've skied or boarded at Marmot before, you know what to expect—and you already know how great it is. But if you haven't and you're itching to hitch a ride with your friends this year, here's what you can look forward to.

Marmot is a hill for all skill levels. Fifty-three beginner, intermediate and expert runs dot the hill from top to bottom. One of my favorite cruising runs is Paradise. Knob Hill and Slash are more challenging and Tranquillizer helps you get the kinks out. There's even some great tree-skiing in the Caribou Knoll.

Last year we took a boarder in there with us and even though we emerged like snowballs, we were grinning from ear to ear and went back for more.

The mid-mountain Eagle and Paradise chalets are great places for a break and you can laze on couches in front of a fireplace while planning the next run. The Marmot Burger is an on-hill clas-



Blazing some trails in Marmot's powder.

sic which is sure to tempt any appetite. At the end of the day you can easily ski to your car as the parking lots are conveniently tiered up the right side of the hill. Then it's only a 19 km drive to the Jasper townsite where you can relax, shop and dine at some superb restaurants. Jasper has more certified chefs per capita than anywhere in Canada.

First class accommodations are one of Jasper's highlights. Staying at the Charlton's Chateau Jasper was a real treat. Gourmet food, hot tub, pool and great beds are par for the course. They even wash your car windows in the underground heated parking lot while you're sleeping.

So if you're ready to hit the

slopes, head west down the Yellowhead to Marmot basin. The lift lines are short and the rewards are endless. This year's Jasper in January takes place Jan. 16-31.

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TRAVEL

Thailand not a comfort resort spot

But Asian nation offers worthwhile adventure

TRAVEL

BY TANYA SMIGIELSKI

Some people travel for education and others for pleasure.

I travel for the sheer inconvenience of it. That's how I find myself sleeping on the floor of train stations, carrying my own toilet paper and eating mystery meat from dodgy roadside vendors—instead of relaxing on a beach in Cancun, sipping Mai Tais brought to me by some guy called José.

That's also how I ended up in Thailand. I read about the chaos of Bangkok, the potential hassles for women traveling alone and the prevalence of black-market scams. It sounded ideal for a connoisseur of discomfort like myself.

It is a land of rich temples, fascinating culture, friendly people and great food. It is also an adventure in commuting. To this day, my clearest memories of Thailand are the countless hazardous methods of transporting yourself from one destination to another.

Bangkok did not disappoint. It was hectic, noisy and it smelled. As I soon found out, just crossing the street was risky business. There are no crosswalks and no lulls in the flow of traffic. You have to stay on your toes. Keep your eyes peeled for that unobservant driver who has lagged more than a foot behind the car in front of him, then seize your opportunity before he notices and closes that gap to the customary two inches.

After a few days in Bangkok, I heard about a hill tribe trek I could arrange in Chiang Mai—a city in Northern Thailand. Several days of hiking from village to village, sleeping on floors of local huts, riding elephants and no showers. What more uncomfortable way could there be to experience this culture?

To get to the bus stop I decided to hire what Thais call a *Tuk Tuk*—but what looked to me like a three-wheeled, homemade golf cart. As the driver screeched to a halt at the curb in front of me, I noticed he was wearing a hospital mask to protect himself from the bouquet of pollu-



The Giant Standing Buddha in Bangkok.

tion that blankets the city. Unfortunately, a mask for me was not part of the deal I struck, but he did throw in a guided tour of all the Buddhas Bangkok has to offer.

We farted noisily along—from the Giant Sitting Buddha, to the Giant Standing Buddha, to the Giant Reclining Buddha—through several unmarked and unheeded lanes of traffic. Thai drivers are aggressive and fast. And judging by the way they cut us off from all directions, honked their horns and nudged us out of the way, they view *Tuk Tucs* as a nuisance.

I breathed a premature sigh of relief when I spotted the bus that was to take me overnight to Chiang Mai. It looked pretty much like the Greyhounds I had traveled in at home. Once I was on the bus the first thing I noticed was the air-conditioning. What a novelty in a city of suffocating humidity! Refreshing at first, it soon became chilly and then downright Arctic. I crawled shivering into my sleeping bag, pulled the mummy hood over my head and tied it under my chin. Fortunately, my mind was soon occupied with thoughts other than the cold.

There seem to be no rules on any of the roads in Thailand—just impulse. Drivers traveling at breakneck speeds vie for the middle of the road and pass on blind corners without hesitation. Our chain-smoking driver stretched languidly behind his wheel and with an icy calm he played games of chicken with oncoming traffic.

Amazingly, *Nightmare on Elm Street* was showing on the video system. A ploy, I think, to distract us from noticing the mayhem of the main feature—the journey itself. Unfortunately, from my front seat vantage point, I had an unobstructed view of the big-screen front window and cringed in fear at the sight of headlights in the distance.

Freddy Krueger had nothing on

our driver. He never flinched, he never faltered, he never compromised our course. Although I'm not sure he wasn't completely oblivious to the excitement, due to the dense cloud of Marlboro smoke forming around his head.

Much to my relief—and surprise—we arrived in Chiang Mai without incident. I was anxious to get somewhere without traffic so I booked a trek for the next day. We trudged on foot from tribe to tribe and came across the odd monkey, a few black pigs and lots of chickens—but no traffic. On the second day we arrived in a village that relied on elephants for work and for transportation. So, we had the opportunity to ride them to our next destination.

Perched what seemed like miles from the ground on rough wooden seats, we were off. Slowly and carelessly they mashed everything along the narrow muddy path. From side to side we slid, earning splinters in our bottoms. These elephants were stubborn creatures. They stopped to eat and/or defecate whenever they pleased and no amount of yelling or slapping could persuade these pachyderms to press forward before they were ready. Once moving—as though they were poking fun of our tender skin—they would inevitably gravitate toward the trees with the sharpest branches leaving all of us with tangible, and sore, memories of our ride.

The trek ended with a river ride on homemade bamboo rafts. It was sweltering, but the water was filthy and snake infested, so we opted to sweat it out. On the bumpy ride back to our guesthouse in the back of a pick-up I thought about my next trip. Maybe I'd trek Nepal or try to get into Tibet. Better yet, I had heard some horrendous stories about Cycle Africa. Well, maybe Mexico wouldn't be so bad. If I ever felt starved for adventure I guess I could drink the water.

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Wellness can be attributed to common scents

HEALTH

BY SHARON TREPTAN

Aromatherapy is the age-old practice of using essential oils and their scents in holistic healing.

The ancient Egyptians integrated essential oils into the embalming process. Oils also scented their temples. Aromatherapy is an art practiced throughout history which is regaining popularity due to its healing benefits.

Natalie Allouche of Mother Earth Scents Studio in HUB Mall defines aromatherapy as "the art and science of knowing how to use the essence of plants, flowers, trees and certain woods for physical and emotional benefits."

Lavender and chamomile are relaxing, rose and clary sage alleviate depression, rosemary energizes and palmarosa eases stress and nervous tension. Tea tree oil and eucalyptus are antiseptics that relieve colds. Juniper berries are helpful with acne. Grapefruit oil makes for an invigorating bath. Bergamot leaves a fresh scent when cleaning the house. Ylang Ylang is an aphrodisiac.

Aromatherapy relies upon the processes of inhalation and absorption. There are many ways to benefit from aromatherapy. One can smell essential oils, pure aromatic candles, incense and oils warmed in a diffuser. Small roll-ons can be utilized to place diluted essential oils directly on the skin, to be absorbed into the bloodstream. A few drops of essential oil can be added to a bath or shower. Tea tree oil for colds can be used in steam inhalation. Therapeutic body creams are another option. Essential oils can

also be applied to the skin

There are many products available to make the process of aromatherapy more convenient and enjoyable. There are room diffusers, scent balls and car diffusers. Mother Earth Scents Studio also carries a line of aromawear such as necklaces and keychains in which you carry your favorite healing scent.

Another way to reap the benefits of essential oils is to use aromatherapy services. European Skin Care, located on 109 St. and 72 Ave., offers several services. When clients visit the salon, owner Marie Chalas takes a few minutes to consult with them about their mood and overall feeling of well-being for the day. She then decides which type of essential oil will be used to induce relaxation and calmness (both emotional and physical). Certain oils can also be chosen to alleviate skin disturbances. The oil is mixed with a cream when doing an aromatic facial or with a carrier oil when doing an aromatic massage. At the salon, they also warm essential oils in aromatic diffusers while people are receiving other services such as pedicures. Aromatherapy has long been employed in the past to heal holistically. Chalas says "we are now realizing that aromatherapy with essential oils is better for the skin than anything man-made."

Pricing, without GST, varies depending on the desired product or service. Essential oils range in price from \$4-\$20. Aromawear and diffusers run between \$8-\$38. Aromatic facials are \$55. Aromatic massages range between \$20-\$50 depending on the duration.

Both Allouche and Chalas note that just because these are natural

products, it doesn't mean they can't be harmful. People need to be aware of the proper way to use the products. Onsite assessment and consultation with clients helps them make informed decisions. Certain oils can cause problems for people with asthma, epilepsy and high blood pressure. Pregnant women should also be aware of safer oils. It is recommended that people with specific health concerns consult with a qualified medical professional and aromatherapist before use.

On the healing power of aromatherapy, Chalas comments: "An oil will reach the senses of the body, make a person feel relaxed and have a sense of well being." Aromatherapy is a method of holistic healing which affects both body and mind. It is another possibility along the journey to wellness.

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OILERS WEEK



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This week, Vue press-box fixture John Turner felt a little under the weather, so compatriot Steven Sandor flies solo this week.

TOPIC: Mush's suspension

Steve: OK, Bryan Marchment's hit on Mike Modano in last week's Star/Oilers match-up wasn't that flagrant. Did Mush intentionally stick his knee into Modano? Unlikely. But the NHL had to suspend Mush for two reasons: 1.) Mush's reputation—a Sports Illustrated players' poll rated him the second dirtiest player in the NHL, after only the Rangers' Ulf Samuelsson. 2.) Modano is one of the few players the NHL can call a bona fide star. Until his injury, he was having an MVP-type year. He was leading the highest-scoring offence in the league and his plus-minus was out of sight. Yes, that's right folks. If there's any southern American team I respect, it's the Stars. They don't trap, they

stress the importance of forechecking and they're one of the most exciting teams in the league to watch. It's no accident they lead the league in goals—if they can hold onto that mantle without Modano is another question. Until he retires, every check Marchment levels will be questioned. That's life.

TOPIC: Red Wings or Dead Wings?

Steve: Nothing warms my heart more than when the stinking Red Wings get beat. The Oilers played their best game of the season Friday and dominated the Motown octopus-loving hacks. I don't care if they hold the Cup. The Red Wings are like ex-girlfriends. You don't want to talk to them and you don't respect them even if they go all the way. But where has this Oilers team been all season—this team that flogged the Stanley Cup champs. Bob Essensa was brilliant in net—he should play more. If the Oilers want to succeed in the second half of the season and after the Olympics, they need to temper Curtis Joseph's workload. Joe Hulbig's first-ever NHL goal was a beauty, he undressed two Red Wings defenders and threw it past Red Wing goalie Chris Osgood, who kind of flailed at the puck like a senior citizen playing tennis. Well done, Oil! Because, just like at the pub, Wings are best when they are barbecued.

All That Jazz

By Peter North

Anytime Calgary's Cheryl Fisher can make her way up Hwy. 2 to perform in this city is a bonus for jazz music fans.

Unfortunately, even though she lives a stone's throw from here, gigs haven't exactly been abundant in Edmonton for the songbird who is a unique voice in jazz. But earlier this week, fans of Fisher's did have the opportunity to catch her when she released her second CD *Too Late Too Hurry*, which is being distributed by the Edmonton-based *Royalty Records*.

Unfortunately, Fisher didn't have as big a crowd as she's drawn in the past during Jazz City or at Select Café engagements but that didn't stop the vocalist and her fine five-piece backing unit from turning in a good show.

What immediately draws a listener to Fisher is that she doesn't vocally go where one would naturally expect her to. She takes chances, writes songs that are lyrically interesting and works within instrumental frames that aren't of the cookie-cutter variety. For her latest project, Fisher worked with a team that included long-time collaborator Allan Vance and an associate with whom she reacquainted herself with not that long ago, guitarist John Stowell.

For years Stowell has been coming up to Edmonton for Jazz City dates and it was at one of his shows a couple of years ago that he and Fisher bumped into each other.

"John was actually doing one show in a men's clothing store, a high-class clothing store—but a clothing store none-the-less," laughed Fisher between sets at The Sidetrack.

"He invited me up to sit in and I was between the size 40 and 45 men's jackets. We got talking and when it came time to make this new record we went down to his base in Portland to record. That part of the world has an incredible number of great players to draw from," added Fisher who has also worked in the past with the great American sax players Scott Hamilton and John Handy as well as greats from around here like P.J. Perry and Tom Banks.

Her new music at times sounds a bit like that of the early edition of Chick Corea's *Return To Forever*.

Standout tracks include Fisher originals, "Eye of the Storm," "Indian Summer" and "Letting You Go" as well as a beauty of a cover of Sammy Cahn's "I Fall In Love Too Easily," which she nailed at the "Trak."

"I wrote Indian Summer driving to Bragg Creek along Highway One," said Fisher.

One would imagine we'll be hearing a lot of this disc on the various jazz shows on CKUA, CBC and CJSR over the next few months and if there's any justice in this business *Too Late Too Hurry* should vault Fisher into the national spotlight.

Dickens rethink gets an encore

MUSICALS
BY DARREN
DAVITY

PreVUE

If you are starting to feel a little humbug about the entire Christmas season, thinking that you have seen and done all the usual Christmas activities, then be sure to get into the spirit of Christmas with *The Christmas Carol Project* at the Catalyst Theatre.

You are sure to be impressed by this innovative take on the familiar Dickens tale. It is not theatre and it is a straight concert. Loosely narrated by Richard Winnick, *The Christmas Carol Project* features some of the best musicians in Edmonton playing original songs that tell the story of the crustiest Grinch ever.

The brainchild of John Armstrong from Brass Monkey Productions, the show was originally produced last year as a one-night extravaganza. Due to the success and feedback from that one show, it will return for four nights and one Saturday matinee December 17-20.

All of the original cast are back for this year's performance. Bill Bourne reprises his role as Scrooge, Tom Roschikov continues as the oppressed Bob Cratchit, Kevin Cook as Jacob Marley and Maria Dunn returns as the ever-adorable Tiny Tim. The avenging forces of good, otherwise known as the Ghosts of Christmas Past, Present and Future, are once again played by Terry Morrison, Al Brant and Dale Ladouceur.

"We had access to the Catalyst Theatre for that one night," explains Morrison, "so we decided to just showcase the tunes. But it went really well—we sold out—and everyone that was there thoroughly enjoyed themselves."

Continues Dunn, "It was an experiment. A work in progress. We weren't sure how it would go. We wanted to get more out of it than just one night. We want to get it right this time."

In fact, the show was so successful last year, with such good feelings among the cast, that there is talk of expanding the project even further. There is a possibility of the

songs being put to disc for a Christmas CD.

For the upcoming performance there are a few format changes from last year. After the Friday and Saturday shows, there will be a dance and cabaret. The dance set will feature the cast helping each other out on songs drawn from their own musical backgrounds. It will be a rare opportunity to hear Dale Ladouceur's Chapman stick bringing up a Bill Bourne original, or the sound of Maria Dunn's accordion behind the voice of Terry Morrison.

Apart from the wonderful songs and lyrics, there won't be much in the way of stage frolicking. However, both Morrison and Dunn hinted at possible experiments in costuming. Period costuming is on the agenda, as is the almost surety of seeing the famous Bill Bourne top hat on top the head of the villain Scrooge.

The Christmas Carol Project
Catalyst Theatre
Dec. 17-20

No road woes for McDermott

FOLK

BY LORRAINE KESSLER

PreVUE

How many people can honestly say they love what they do? Not too many. And even though their rewards are many, performing artists are no different. They live a boring lifestyle (touring, that is) where all hotel rooms look the same, the restaurant food is all the same, the cities are all the same, etc.

Wait a minute. That's a bunch of drivel according to folk singer John McDermott. The Irish tenor and his comfortable and downright charming stage presence are coming to Edmonton this Sunday. Asked why some musicians enjoy touring more than others he told *Vue Weekly*, "What's not to enjoy? And you should ask them that. What are the drawbacks? And if all you get from these downs is misery, then tell them to stay home! Because I'll be happy to take up what they are not entertaining. Who wouldn't tell you that it's tough? It's tough living in hotel rooms. But they're nice hotel rooms. They don't slouch in dives. Sometimes they do happen to have to stay in hotels that don't have room service begging them to use it. It's fun. And if they don't enjoy doing it, then don't do it!"

Well what about performing? Surely that isn't easy? "That's the whole payback of touring, that I'm allowed to go on stage and do what I want to do for two and a half hours! And it's me that screws up if someone's going to screw up. And that's the

fun of this thing. And you get to share it with anywhere from 500 to 5,000 people. And it's fabulous! And if I'm not having fun, what the hell are you going through? No one likes to sit and watch people who don't want to be there."

You can tell that McDermott likes performing and touring from his schedule. He's currently midway through a Canada-wide Christmas tour. And he's only barely stopping for his own Christmas break.

"We go January 11th to the end of April and then we go into the studio in May and finish up a couple of projects. Then in June we do a tour of Eastern Canada and Ontario. We actually have three weeks off in July and then August, September and October we tour the U.S. November we cross Canada on a national tour and then December we do a Christmas tour of the United States." Clearly this is a man who's found his vocation!

And what about his concert? Is it foot-stomping kind of music? "Some of it. And some of it's very reflective and some of it's very, very mushy. And there's some nice stories within the body of the show itself. There's a few tracks from each of my albums but it's primarily a Christmas show. It's a fun show. There's nothing the kids can't hear or see in it. Come to the show. If you don't your friends will be telling you what you missed!"

John McDermott
Winspear Centre
Dec. 14

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**All your favorite bands...
The Dead, Tool,
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EATON CENTRE**

STEAMPUNK ROMANCE

THE ULTIMATE COFFEE EXPERIENCE

Get Glamorous This X-mas

Enjoy a new a 'make-over' from Salon On Scott and clothing from Columbia Block

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Use: 4 - 11 PM

Music Notes

BROUGHT TO YOU BY GARY MCGOWAN

The grizzly and the trout that call the Cardinal Divide Wilderness home are blissfully unaware that some large mining machinery is headed their way in the not-too-distant future. Or is it? Theoretically, the Cheviot Mine that's planned for the boundary of Jasper National Park has received all the necessary approvals it needs to proceed. But a host of Edmonton musicians are lending their support (and fees) to the ongoing campaign to stop the mine. Almost a dozen artists will squeeze onto the tiny stage of **Bonnie Doon Community Hall** Thursday night for a benefit dance being staged to support the "Stop Cheviot" campaign. **The Mavens**, **Mike McDonald**, **David Shepherd**, **Tacey Ryde**, **Painting Daisies**, **Dianne Donovan** with **Andrew Glover**, **Ben Spencer**, **Robert Walsh**, **Bill Bourne** and one-time **Nowhere Blossom** **Gary Holub** will all play between 6 p.m.-midnight. At a \$10 ticket price, this is a fine evening of entertainment regardless of your relationship with grizzly or trout.

Once again, in the spirit of giving, Edmontonians are gathering to help Santa's Anonymous at **Mike McDonald's 5th Annual Santa's Anonymous Benefit**. An evening of musical mirth and merriment are set to take place this Sunday (Dec. 14) at **Rose Bowl Pizza** (10117-117 St.). Gracing the stage will be locals **Hookahman**, **The Invisible Jug Band**, **Fat Tuesday**, **Twang**, **Agent Bumbo**, **Mole City**, **Chris Smith**, **Cory Danyluk**, **Painting Daisies** and **Lester Quitzau**. As detailed in **YUE** this week, Santa's Anonymous still needs 10,000 more toys. So

don't let the tots go toyless this Xmas—bring a new, unwrapped toy or a cash donation to the gig.

You'll be able to enjoy the homegrown ska of **Mad Bomber Society** Friday night at **New City Likwid Lounge**. The band is back on the gig trail after a short break necessitated by the wedding of keyboardist "Kookie." Immediately following the nuptials, Kookie and Mrs. Kookie embarked on a dream tour of the southern American states. Sadly, the pair's itinerary brought them into Las Vegas too late to see Tom Jones play the gambling Mecca. (Music Notes hopes the couple can score ducats to the Welshman's rescheduled Edmonton date—April 7, 1998 at the Jubilee Auditorium). While in Vegas, Mr. and Mrs. Kookie did note a poster advertising a New Year's show with lounge superstar **Buddy Greco**. News of this once-in-a-lifetime musical event has hit the **Mad Bomber Society** collective hard and, the Lord willing, the entire band dreams of being "in the pit" (as it were) at Greco's show on New Year's Eve. Good luck MBS!

The much-missed **Capt. Nemo** return to an Edmonton stage Saturday night with a gig at **Area 51**. The lads have been busy writing new songs, many of which will be featured in Saturday's show. Post-Christmas, Nemo will begin to demo the new songs with a view to recording a new album in 1998. Joining **Capt. Nemo** on Saturday Night is **Mole City**. The band lays down a cool jazz vibe that shouldn't be missed, particularly its reverential treatment of the **Spider-Man** cartoon theme song.

Edmonton punkers **Smak!** play the **Ritz Diner** Saturday night and they're darn happy that the venue is located in Edmonton. Smak!'s latest foray out of town took them to Vermilion. The band played a fine all-ages gig in that eastern Alberta town and headed onto Hwy 16 after the show to return home. Somewhere in that inky blackness between Vermilion and Vegreville, Smak!'s van's motor blew a rod, depositing the boys on the side of the road with only one question on their minds: "Is anybody here a member of the AMA?" Smak!'s forthcoming album is faring much better than its world-tour-mobile. Recording mixing and mastering of **Kingsize** is now complete and the disc should be released in February.

It's baack...against long odds. Vancouver's **Music West** festival is rolling out a 1998 edition May 28-30 on the West Coast. It's a tad early to book a hotel room, but there are scant hours left to actually get yourself or your band in the festival as performers—applications deadline is Monday. That means your bio and your music have to arrive at Music West world headquarters in Vancouver on Dec. 15th in the company of a completed application form. What to do, what to do? You can go to the Music West website <www.musicwest.com> for information and a downloadable application form, or you can call the 24-hour hotline at (604) 681-4460 for quick assistance. Once you've got everything together you can suck up that last-minute courier charge and send your package to: Expose Yourself! Music West '98 New Music Festival, Suite 306, 21 Water St., Vancouver, BC, V6B 1A1.

Zappacosta continues to bend and shape his music into ever-more-compelling sonic sculptures. Alfie had added a cello player to his live band, which has really added a new texture to his old hits and new material. If you haven't kept up-to-date on the man's musical moves, your next chance comes up Tuesday night at the **Sidetrack Café**. Zappacosta's music and a memorable live performance will be yours to enjoy.

Tractor, manager part ways

INDUSTRY
BY TYVIN
SMITH

Local Celtic folk-rockers **Captain Tractor** and long-time manager **Marlene D'Aoust** have decided to go their own ways.

Described by D'Aoust as an "amicable split," the announcement was made official last week. The band and her had been together for three years, during which time the band produced three records, made six videos and won five ARIA Awards—including D'Aoust's Manager of the Year trophy.

"It was a situation where the band wanted a change in direction," said D'Aoust. "I wish them well and I have a lot of things on the go, as well."

While D'Aoust helped the band raise its profile to become one of the local scene's most successful acts, she has also undertaken a few of the promotional and industry-based projects. She's the co-manager of musician **Brad Bailey** and acts as a consultant for a variety of acts, including singers **Jennifer Gibson** and **Anna Beaumont**, who many people might recognize as one of the voices behind the national anthems before **Oilers** games. She also helps with the

merchandising of Alberta-bred country artist **Duane Steele**, who has made a big splash on the Nashville scene.

D'Aoust is currently in Nashville looking to drum up some new business.

"It's a vacation—but it's a

working vacation. I'll be catching up with a few artists like **Duane Steele** and **Cindy Church**. I'll just go and see what happens."

Captain Tractor will announce a new management deal in the new year as well as the new plans for the band.

Gary McGowan's PROFILES

Name: Mike Bunting.

Notoriety: Mandolin player with **Twang!**, a country band that plays what it likes to play.

Next gig: Afternoon of Dec. 13 at the **Black Dog** (10425 Whyte Ave.)

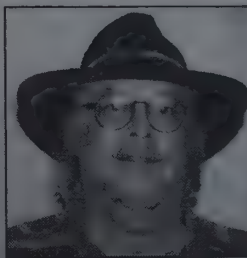
What cause do you feel passionate about? The fact that so many university students are right-wing. I'd like to see that change.

Epitaph: He was a good guy and he had fun.

What do you do to pass the time? Hang out with my kids.

Definition of perfection: That moment in music when the band is playing and you all hook up.

Favorite quote: Mark Twain: "The truth is such a rare commodity that it would behoove us to use it



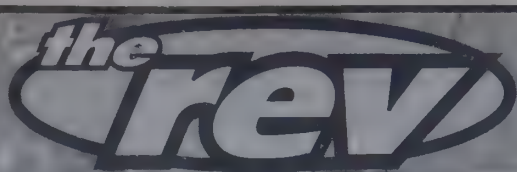
Mike Bunting.

sparingly."

Whose garage sale would you like to attend? Bill Monroe's.

First record bought: A 45 rpm of the song "Come Go With Me" by the **Del-Vikings**.

First concert attended: While I was a student at McGill University in Montreal in 1964, I saw **Bob Dylan** at **Place Ville-Marie**. He played the first half of the show solo and brought the band out for the second half.



FRIDAY, DECEMBER 12

Whoremoads with Guests **PELT**

and **The Hummers**

THURSDAY, DECEMBER 18

THE **Maybellines**

with Guests **Shem** and **ROBIN HUNTER** (of the **Imagineers**)

FRIDAY, DECEMBER 19

CHOKER

CD RELEASE PARTY with Guests

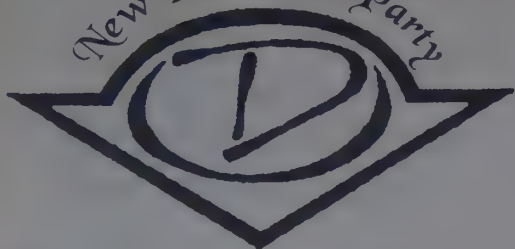
AMBER 416
WITH SPECIAL GUESTS
NAMESAKE

FRIDAY, DECEMBER 26
BOXING DAY BLOWOUT!
EVERYTHING MUST GO!

RESOLUTION
NEW YEAR'S EVE
4 ROOMS • 13 DJ'S
ADVANCE TIX AVAILABLE AT:
FIN SIDE (WEST) / DRAUGHT POPE / COLOUR BLIND / LUSH

10030 - 102 ST. INFO: 423-7820

New Year's Eve Party



New Year's at Devlin's



- Dirty 30's
- Live Jazz
- Midnight Champagne & Buffet
- \$20.00 per person

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Greenwood Singers take liberties with the 12 Days

CHORAL

BY DAVID
GOBEIL TAYLOR

PreVUE

The holiday season is usually synonymous with choral music—and this year is no exception. You can't swing a red-nosed reindeer without hitting a choir singing a Christmas concert somewhere in December. How is the discerning Yuletide aficionado to choose among the myriad of performances, in order to get the most fa la la for his or her buck?

If longevity, recordings and professional associations are any indication, you can't go wrong with the Greenwood Singers. Founded in 1980 by Dr. Robert de Frece, the 40-member choir has grown from an undistin-

guished one or two concerts a year to performing four or five times annually with such prestigious accompaniment as the Alberta Baroque Ensemble and the Edmonton Symphony Orchestra. Last year the ensemble released a CD, *A Wintergreen Christmas*.

"We've just come off a very busy weekend," says choir member Tamara Johnson, referring to the Greenwood Singers' three concerts Dec. 4-6 with the Edmonton Symphony, titled *A Fort Edmonton Christmas*. The concerts were successful, almost selling out, but instead of resting on its laurels, the choir is preparing for its own solo concert not even two weeks later, at All Saints' Anglican Cathedral Dec. 15.

The concert features mostly traditional Christmas music, from the familiar "O Come, O Come Emmanuel," and "Away in a Manger" to the more obscure "O Green and Shimmering Tree" and (a personal favorite of mine) "Fum, Fum, Fum."

There will be a variety of accompaniment: some pieces will be sung a cappella, others with four-hands piano. And a Buxtehude cantata will be accompa-

nied by two violins and a cello. The choir will also be joined by the University of Alberta Faculty of Education Handbell Ringers, also conducted by de Frece—who will play the perennial Christmas *Nutcracker* excerpt "Dance of the Sugar-Plum Fairies" as well as the obviously appropriate "Silver Bells."

"We're singing all of the Christmas favorites," says Johnson, "but arranged a little bit differently."

Or, in one case, a lot differently. "A Musiological Journey Through the Twelve Days of Christmas" turns this admittedly monotonous Yuletide staple on its ear, making each day a short funny piece.

"It's really a quite humorous piece," says Johnson. She didn't want to give much away, but she did say that the Ten Lords A-Leaping movement is made to sound Viennese. I didn't dare ask about the Geese A-Laying.

Greenwood Singers
All Saints' Anglican
Cathedral
Dec. 15

Wassail away with Ekos

CHORAL

BY DAVID
GOBEIL TAYLOR

PreVUE

One often gets the impression that if groups put half as much thought into what they do as they put into choosing a clever acronym, the world might be a better place. So it's refreshing to talk to someone who has her priorities straight.

The Edmonton Kiwanis Singers refer to themselves as "Ekos," leading to the obvious question: what does the "o" stand for?

"Nothing," admits singer Gail Redmond. "When we were coming up with a name, someone suggested Ekos, meaning the Edmonton Kiwanis Organization of Singers." The choir's director, Paula Roberts, didn't like the sound of it, so they kept the abbreviation and lost the long-winded name.

Ekos was started by Roberts with funding from the Downtown Kiwanis Club of Edmonton in order to establish a community-based choir. Since then, Ekos has been a completely independent organization, but the Kiwanis Club is back this year,

sponsoring the choir's upcoming concert, "Echoes of Christmas."

The concert, which will take place in the lobby of Edmonton City Hall, also features Capital Brass, a brass ensemble, and the Little Dickens Children's Choir from Holyrood School.

The music is a blend of traditional and contemporary Christmas music, from "Have Yourself a Merry Little Christmas" and "Ding Dong Merrily On High" (which, to my bitter disappointment, does not refer to junk food) to Kirby Shaw's jazzy "Cool Yule" and a song simply titled "Merry Christmas" from the soundtrack of *Home Alone*.

To go along with the song "Gloucestershire Wassail," the choir will dress up in authentic medieval garb and will serve free hot wassail (a traditional cinnamon-flavored cider drink) to the spectators. Their wassail is, however, non-alcoholic, so spectators will have to get their Christmas cheer solely from the music.

Ekos
City Hall
Dec. 14

NEW YEAR'S

WEDNESDAY DECEMBER 31

OLD SECOND BUS BARS (10440-84 Ave) • DECEMBER SNOWY/POW DAY • 04-5-10
LOCAL BAND EXTRAVAGANZA 7:00 P.M.S. • OLD RELIABLE • DRUGS
LAS VEGAS CRYPT KEEPERS • 8:00 P.M. MIDNIGHT COUNTDOWN WITH THE SMALLS
ASSORTED DOOR PRIZES INCLUDING: BURTON SNOWBOARD AND LOADS MORE
BOOZE FOR \$10.00 • MACHETE • MOOZIE • SODA • SASSY • SEVEN • THE RIV

THE SMALLS

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Paragon explores a world of musical possibilities

NEW AGE
BY STEVEN

PreVUE

If you can't bring your music to the world, then you should bring the world to your music.

That certainly holds true for Edmonton-based electronic-fusion-instrumental trio Paragon, who will play the A-Channel's *Wired* show this Thursday and the *Big Breakfast* Friday morning as a warm-up for the band's weekend gig at the City Media Club.

Worldwide interest in the band's new independently-released CD, *Flux*, is growing thanks to the band's P.R. assault on the World Wide Web. The band's website (www.compusmart.ab.ca/paragon/) features band info as well as taped samples of the band's work.

"We've bombarded news groups with information about the band," says bassist Ian Hunter. "And we're getting more involved with the Internet. It's not easy for us to get played in town because the sound we have is really not in fashion at the moment. But thanks to our involvement on the Internet, we've got airplay at Bowling Green University in Ohio and interest as far away as Nice, France. We've even got e-mail from the Food and Agriculture Department of the U.N. in Rome, Italy. Someone there says they would love to do a review of our work."

The Paragon project began in 1987, with percussionist Graham Harding and keyboard player Nick Stauffer. The duo released a tape, *Oceanus*, in 1988. Hunter was brought in two years later to fill out the group's sound. But it took the group seven years to release a record of new music, mainly because their day jobs didn't give them the time needed to hash out



Paragon ▷ No guitars insures worldwide sound.

an album until this year. But becoming a staple on the local scene isn't important for the band; gaining listeners across the globe is more important.

"We're not well-known in Edmonton," says Hunter. "But we want to make our mark throughout the world. We have a worldwide sound—we're a very international-sounding band, because we get rid of certain elements that

gives a band a local focus. There are no guitars or vocals.'

The band's music will also be available in other forms, even though listeners might not know it's Paragon they're listening to. The band is part of Actual Reality, the company that runs the Laser Tag game at the West Edmonton Mall. The band provides the music for the game's promotional CD-ROM. As well, the band's music will be featured on Telus corporate videos and a film produced by Birthright, which will air at over 95,000 high schools across North America. And the band has enough material under its collective belt for a second album—and we shouldn't have to wait seven years for this one, either.

"We're going to play our entire album when we play live," promises Hunter. "Plus we have enough material written for a second album. The band is continually writing. Graham and Nick do the brunt of the writing and then I come in and add to their material. It's a situation I'm very comfortable with."

But expect to hear a few familiar tunes in the band's set, including Yes's "The Fish" and Genesis's "Fading Light." Still, with an experimental aesthete, this writer refuses to guarantee Paragon's work will sound remotely close to the originals.

But with an ever-expanding website and a rapidly-growing links page, it may not be long until we hear someone else covering Paragon's music.

five years ago," says Ardelle Ries, one of the coordinators of Schola Cantorum (Latin for "school of singing"), the Conservatory's choral program.

The inspiration to revive this tradition came from Michel Marc Geremia, who founded the Schola Cantorum years ago and now heads a conducting program in California. This year he's returning as a guest of the Conservatory to conduct portions of their concert, "Conservatory Christmas at Winspear," which will incorporate the Festival of Light—which he was able to see first-hand during his studies in Sweden.

The entire conservatory will be taking part in this event, from the about 200 choristers to the brass and string groups. Several faculty members will be featured as vocal soloists. Guests will include Pro Coro Canada, a professional choir and the Edmonton Wind Sinfonia.

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Festival of Light revived in musical celebration

CHORAL
BY DAVID
GOBEIL TAYLOR

PreVUE

There are many religious traditions associated with the holiday season; and if a tradition is religious, it's also musical, because all of Western music evolved from Catholic liturgical music.

There is a wealth of music associated with the holiday traditions of Christmas, Epiphany and even New Year's Day, which is the feast of the circumcision of Jesus, believe it or not. But the Alberta College Conservatory of Music wants to revive one more holiday tradition: the Festival of Light, celebrated on the feast day of Saint Lucia Dec. 13.

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THURSDAYS

Biscuit Boy a no-show at Blues on Whyte

BLUES

BY CAM HAYDEN

I hate to say "I told you so" but... were you at the Blues on Whyte last Saturday night expecting to hear King Biscuit Boy working with Johnny V? Me too.

About halfway through a very enjoyable second set from Johnny and his band everyone at our table noticed the absence of a harmonica player. Not that Johnny V's band really needed one. They were laying down some solid grooves that had most of us out on the dance floor at least once already. But the question was "Where's Biscuit?" Now you may remember that a couple of weeks ago in this space I said that a King Biscuit Boy gig could be somewhat of a crashshoot—and though his best work in recent years was with Johnny V, even Johnny gave no guarantees as far as Biscuit was concerned. As it turned out, Biscuit never did show up for work last Saturday night. When a search party was sent to his room he wasn't there either.

With the holiday season in gear, most live venues are not too keen to bring in big-name entertainment, opting instead for local groups to entertain the office parties that make up a large part of the business at this time of year. However, if you're looking for something a little special this Thursday or next try the *Edmonton Queen* where the "River Blues" series concludes for this year with Hot Cottage tonight (the 11th) and the Rockin' Highliners next Thursday.

Trying to find that perfect something for the die-hard blues fan on your shopping list? I've got some suggestions for your gift-giving consideration that I've neatly pigeonholed by instrument or style.

Any fans of piano-based blues on your list will certainly enjoy a Tone-Cool release by David Maxwell. *Maximum Blues Piano* features the consummate sideman stepping out front to get his share of the glory. Having spent 30 years in the business backing the likes of Freddie King, James Cotton and Bonnie Raitt, Maxwell certainly has his chops. On this CD he's joined by the 2 Martyrs, Duke Robillard's impeccable rhythm section—Marty Ballou on bass and Marty Richards on drums. Throw in some fine guitar by Ronnie Earl and Duke Levine and you've got a sure-fire winner that moves from slow blues burners to gospel-flavored tunes to all out boogie. Jay McShann's *Hootie's Jumpin' Blues* is my other pick for blues piano fans. Jay has been playing and recording for over 50 years and this album produced by Edmonton's own Stony Plain Records is a testament to his history and continued dedication to the craft.

McShann was one of the cornerstones of the "Kansas City Sound" of the '30s and '40s and in fact gave Charlie Parker his nickname "Bird" when Parker was working in his band. Great music on this CD is augmented by a two-minute interview that introduces you to a true great.

Got a guitar player on your list? Pick up a copy of *Great Guitars*,

the Verve release of this past year by Joe Louis Walker. This is one of those CDs that has assembled a huge number of name artists on one disc. Unlike many of these types of CDs, this one has focus, clarity and, above all, super music. Bonnie Raitt, Gatemouth Brown, Taj Mahal, Buddy Guy and Otis Rush all step in for their turn on stage, but they are never in competition. Rather, each has the opportunity to "make their statement" as Gatemouth would say, and they do it with class.

Ruth Brown is a vocalist who has been with us since winning the amateur contest at the Apollo Theatre in 1944. Since then she has covered a repertoire ranging from W.C. Handy through Gershwin to Doc Pomus and Los Lobos. Her CD *R+B= Ruth Brown* released on Bullseye Blues this year, features the incomparable Duke Robillard on guitar, along with an all-star supporting cast.

Some quick picks for that musical stocking stuffer include *Gate Swings* with Clarence "Gatemouth" Brown, the stripped down, revved-up *High Water* from the Fabulous Thunderbirds, Taj Mahal's *Senor Blues* (which features the jazzy side of the blues with Taj) and, in the turnabout-is-fair-play department, *Paint It Blue*, *Songs of the Rolling Stones*, that sees a host of blues musicians covering Rolling Stones songs. ●

Cam Hayden hosts the *Friday Night Blues Party* every Friday from 9 a.m.-midnight and *Alberta Morning* from 6 a.m.-9 a.m. Monday-Friday on the CKUA Radio Network 94.9 FM and 580 AM.

Skavenjah's memories of Edmonton a bit blurry

SKA

BY DARRIN HOLIVERT

PreVUE

Talking with Dave Kapp from Skavenjah will make you think that ska is the best music to play. Even if you have no clue what ska is—even if you have never heard the horns cut a corner or the backbeat rhythms, Kapp can make you a believer.

He makes it sound like so much fun.

Take for instance the sum of his memories from the last time Skavenjah was in Edmonton, "Last time we were there, it was pretty much a blur. Don't remember much...."

Or the motivation behind the band. "We wanted to start a ska band to just play a few gigs. We wanted a way of subsidizing our beer-drinking in the bar."

Or the new band purchase: "We just got Skavenjah team bowling shirts for the band."

No doubt about it, Kapp and the rest of Skavenjah are having a lot of fun paying off their bar tabs. There are a total of nine players in the band which Kapp admits makes traveling difficult. However, they have come up with a possible solution—they will be driving into town in their brand new vehicle.

"With nine guys in our band, it can be a logistical nightmare. Instead of four or five guys driving, we bought a little bus. Edmonton will be the inaugural trip. So, look out for the big checkered school bus," advises Kapp.

Started five years ago, Skavenjah has survived

the isolation of Regina, the continuous replacement of members and the theft of some of its instruments. There is even a promise to the thief in the liner notes of their newest CD *All Dressed Up*. That if the band members ever catch up to him, "they will kick the living shit out of [him]."

They might sound tough—even look tough in their two-toned greasy suits—but they are really about having fun. They seem like the group that would love to buy you a beer—or give you a haircut.

Explains Kapp: "On a New Year's Eve gig, Nathan [trumpet player] decided that he wanted a haircut. There were some clippers there, so we made a ponytail out of his long blond hair and hung it up in the bar for all the girls. Now it is just something to keep the entertainment going between sets. All the guys seem to love it—the fur really flies."

Between all the gigs and drinking, Skavenjah has been busy producing songs. The band is featured on several compilations, including the *All Skanadian Club* put out by Stomp Records. It features a song from *All Dressed Up*.

The band will have a new CD out by next summer and in the meantime, will continue to play shows and tour when the opportunity—and the desire—arises. ●

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w/ the Skeletones
Rebar

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Don't have a PC Christmas—be Leary, instead

DENIS LEARY
Look 'N Load
(A&M)

If you hate people who ride their bikes in the city, rollerbladers, flavored coffee and brewpubs that don't serve Budweiser, Denis Leary's latest acerbic stand-up collection (culled from a recent HBO special) is for you.

A collection of songs and stand-up, *Lock 'N Load* is a perfect follow-up from the man who has become famous as the black-jacketed apolitically-correct spokesperson for IBM and the author of the out-of-left-field hit single "Asshole," which contained the classic line "I like to park in handicapped spaces, while handicapped people make handicapped faces."

This time the musical gems are a two-minute ditty titled "Life's Gonna Suck" and Leary's diatribe on the Lapsed Catholic Church (co-written with the Afghan Whigs' Greg Dulli), "Lock 'N Load." But it's the stand-up that makes this record. Leary's diatribe on who he would shoot if he was president—bike assholes and pink-clad rollerbladers—makes for hilarious backlash to the politically correct '90s. His lament of the fact that nowhere in America can you get a coffee-flavored coffee will stick with you as you try and re-relate the jokes to your co-workers at the office. He blasts Starbucks for being the antithesis of coffee shops for banning smoking. "What's this? Coffee was invented by a bunch of guys who were smoking anyways," Leary asserts. "They invented coffee so they could stay up later and smoke fucking more!"

With more than a sarcastic nod to the right wing, Leary's humor is welcome relief to a new world of toe-the-line comedians who treat special interest groups as sacréd cows. If you know a cynic, this would make the



perfect Christmas gift. The kind of people who would take offence to Leary's brand of humor probably don't have a sense of humor in the first place. After all, to quote Leary, "they're bike assholes."

Steven Sander

RY COODER
The End of the Violence; ost
(Outpost/Universal)

This guitarist has spent more time in the studio composing and recording music for films than he has for making solo recordings in the past 15 years.

This disc—like the soundtrack he put together for another Wim Wenders' film, *Paris, Texas*, a dozen years ago—is more than engaging enough to survive on its own without having to view the film simultaneously.

Cooder's haunting bottleneck guitar sound dominates, creating a sound scape that melds blues with sounds that feel like they were coaxed out of nature.

On a number of tunes he utilizes a full band that includes longtime associates like drummer Jim Keltner, accordion master Flaco Jimenez and percussion-playing son Joachim along with jazz men like pianist Jackie Terrason, guitarist James "Blood" Ulmer, flautist Tonya Ridgley and trumpet player Jon Hassell.

Not having seen the movie allow the music the opportunity to act as a catalyst for triggering images, but the more this listener turns to the disc the more he wants to see the images on the screen that accompany the sound scapes

Feder Harth

BURNIN' DAYLIGHT
Burnin' Daylight
(Carb)

No question, the talents of Marc Bee son, Kurt Howell and Sonny LeMaire are beyond reproach. Between the three of them, they've put together a disc that's chock full of excellent harmonies, tuneful arrangements and clever songwriting. Maybe a little too clever, in fact. I mean, there's getting a good sound and there's getting a sound without any rough edges at all. Even so, the abilities of all three players shines through—I'm just thinking a little getting loose would go a long way.

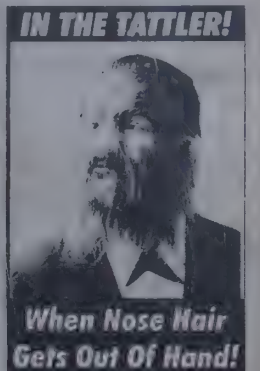
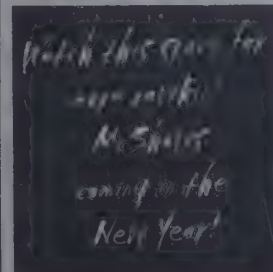
As it is, these fellas probably have a couple of radio contenders; talent of this calibre can't be denied. However, Burnin' Daylight might give a little thought to *unlearning* some of what it knows about country music. It would lend the effect of being more down-home.

T.C. Shaw

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AMIE MOORE
Alberta For Christmas
(Indieland)

Alberta For Christmas is a four-song CD with four different versions of the title song. The song recounts returning home to Alberta to visit friends and family for Christmas. This folksy-countertitled song should become a sentimental favorite for anyone who calls Alberta home. Instead of rehashing an old, worn-out classic, Moore has decided to create her own song featuring our very fine province. Sung with a clear, crisp voice, it recalls the coldness of the prairies set against the warmth of returning home.

Amy Hough

JEFFREY OSBORNE
Something Warm For Christmas
(Atco)

I don't mind Christmas. It's a good time to enjoy the company of family and friends, exchange good tidings and reminders of the meaning in our lives. It's all that and more. In fact, it's a time to shake off the cold and get warm and fuzzy.

Nausea shouldn't have to be an option.

However, the commercial machine churns out enough garbage wrapped in cellophane to make the wiser amongst us wince and twitch. Jeffrey Osborne may have a smooth, lush voice but the dismal nightmare he's produced here is too tender for the yuletide fire. *Something Warm for Christmas* is hardly

that; it is a wretched, overly-slick collection of sludge best suited for Christmas specials only the weaker of the species could enjoy. While the standards are manageable, like "First Noel" and "Silent Night," it is Osborne's attempts at original composition that start the crawling pain.

"Can't Wait For Christmas" is a rapid, hollow treatise on the fabled morn, lacking the playful silliness of "Santa Claus Is Coming To Town," or the aching delicacy of "White Christmas." Perhaps it's the delivery.

The greatest cause for ire would have to be "Just A Little Snow," where Osborne lyrically pines for the white stuff from his California haven. He even has the balls to include the line, "Tell oh Santa that it's warm/turn the air conditioning on/Bring some toys for girls and boys you know." Look, Jeffrey. Come to Edmonton. Have all the snow you want, you bastard.

Just give me your California villa with its air conditioning and let me have a break from this stuff. Lucky for you I still think there's more to this season than crass references to shallow commercialism.

Best suited as a tool for revenge and mall muzak

Dave Johnston

SOUL TRAIN
Christmas Starfest
(Sony Music)

If Barry Manilow is not your cup of tea this holiday season, Soul Train's *Christmas Starfest* album just might be.

The Christmas album features a wide range of R&B artists with traditional and not-so-traditional Yuletide favorites. Natalie Cole sings the Christmas classic "The Christmas

Song." En Vogue does its rendition of "Silent Night." This *Starfest* also includes Boyz II Men, Luther Vandross, Patti LaBelle, Stevie Wonder and James Brown with his song "Santa Claus Goes Straight To The Ghetto."

So, if you want to liven up your Christmas party this season, this album is sure to please some or make others burst out in laughter.

Ana M. De La Fuente

THE ARROGANT WORMS
Christmas Turkey
(Independent)

I've finally stopped laughing long enough to write a review. Let's face it, not everybody likes Christmas. To those of you who think the holiday's a lot of bah-humbug, here's your theme album.

The album starts off with a bang and a taste of things to come. "Santa's coming and he's gonna kick your ass." Cause you've been a naughty little boy. "Poor Santa gets arrested, goes broke and moves to Mexico during this CD. There's also a lot of puking on the album, from "Dad Threw Up On Christmas Day" to "Christmas Hangover"—to which I relate very well.

We're introduced to a new character in the Xmas mythos; no, not an elf or a reindeer, but Vincent the Christmas Virus, who miserably hands out nausea and diarrhea, "the gift that keeps on giving." And anyone who has experienced that last insane shopping week can relate to "Oh God, Christmas Is Almost Here." The Worms have done it again. No subject is too sacred, obscene or just plain weird for them—and they happily poke scathing fun at you, me, Santa and the small town of Ignace.

David Gobail Taylor

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THEATRE

BY RUSSETT WIND

PreVUE

If the maxim "opposites attract" holds true, there are probably some theatre aficionados trying to cope with the problem of a significant other who is enamored with the TV screen.

Trying to drag this couch potato away from *Seinfeld* reruns to attend a musical is a near-impossible task. If this sounds like your present situation and you'd like to attend the upcoming musical at the Citadel, try this plan.

Start reminiscing with your partner about that fantastic old sitcom, *Cheers*. Hum the lyrics of the opening song "You Wanna Be Where Everybody Knows Your Name." Wax nostalgic about how everyone in the bar used to say in unison, "Hi, Norm!" whenever George Wendt's character lumbered into the bar.

Now lie a little and tell your pal Citadel Theatre is doing a show the sitcom was based on. Except, instead of taking place in a bar called Cheers, the show is set in a restaurant called the Harmonia Gardens. And instead of everyone saying, "Hi Norm!" everybody sings "Hello

Dolly!"

The musical is set in the 1880s and tells a story of Dolly Levi, a widowed matchmaker. She used to frequent her favorite restaurant while her husband was alive but has been a bit of a recluse from the society life of New York since he passed away. However, like Norm, she can't stay away for too long and decides to start living it up again.

A wealthy businessman named Horace van der Gelder hires her to arrange a match for him—and Dolly determines she would be the best choice. She tries a variety of subtle ways to get Horace to fall in love with her. Sort of like how Diane always used to try to get Sam—except in the musical the romance works out just great.

And Dolly isn't the intellectual type Diane was. She's more like a pleasant combination between Diane and Carla. Cast member Julien Arnold says this is part of Dolly's charm.

"Audiences love her right away. She has so much chutzpah and energy. She's operating in a time when women weren't able to pursue their needs immediately. She has to be inventive. The audience loves to watch her dupe the other characters in a charming way," Arnold professes.

The musical is based on a Thornton Wilder play called *The Matchmaker*, which Wilder based on one of his own earlier works called *The Merchant of Yonkers* which he wrote in 1938. Jerry Herman wrote the musical in 1964 which was made into a movie starring Barbra Streisand in 1969. Just tell your TV-loving buddy *Hello Dolly* has been in syndication for ages.

As for yourself, you know how much fun a large-scale musical can be. Arnold sums it up.

"I'm always totally blown away when I'm in a big musical like this. There's a whole brass section and string section. It's an incredible rush [to hear the music]. When I first heard the orchestra, I remember thinking, 'Ah that's why people love going to musicals!' It's lush and romantic."

But don't mention that to your loved one. Just say it's like watching TV, except you'll be in a large theatre. Oh, and don't forget to make sure your partner isn't wearing only underwear before you leave the house.

Hello Dolly

Citadel Theatre

Closes January 18

Christmas show captures colors of childhood

VISUAL ARTS

BY TANYA
SMITH

PreVUE

The Scott Gallery's Christmas-season show focuses on two artists who try to capture the joy of youth.

The show features animal and figurative stone sculptures by Cathryn Jenkins and acrylic paintings of children playing by Katerina Mertikas.

Jenkins, who lives in Whiterock, B.C., grew up in Revelstoke, B.C. where she acquired her sense of

material and nature from her mother Fran Jenkins—well known for her sculptures of grizzly bears and cougars.

Cathryn Jenkins' sculptures include otters, eagles, loons and hawks but more recently she has moved toward figurative pieces. Since the birth of her first child in 1994, Jenkins has been working on more personal pieces of mother and child which she refers to as "Light Catchers."

What is especially unique about Jenkins' work is that she hand quarries her own rocks—which she also learned from her mother who is a

prospector. From the sleekness of a black serpentine otter which looks almost wet, to the blustery grain in the soapstone figure she calls "Windy Journey," her knowledge and care in choosing her material is obvious.

Mertikas' acrylic paintings depict childhood moments in vivid and imaginative colors. Children skate or play a game of shiny beneath turquoise and violet skies surrounded by purple and yellow houses with crimson roofs.

All of Mertikas' paintings on display at the gallery show scenes set in the snow or on rainy days. As a child, the most memorable days are those spent trudging home through snow banks or splashing in puddles. Mertikas captures these spontaneous moments through a child's eye and has us recognize ourselves and our children in each of her paintings.

The Christmas Show is a simple and entertaining display—well worth a look as you make your way through your Christmas list. Work by both artists are available for purchase.

**Cathryn Jenkins/
Katerina Mertikas**

Scott Gallery

Closes Dec. 20

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Indian folklore mixes with modern style in *Passages*

Brian Webb presents groundbreaking world-beat dance

DANCE
BY ALEXANDRA ROMANOW

PreVUE

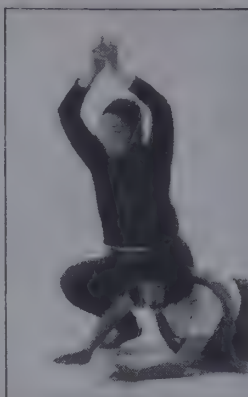
Folk dance is coming out of the church basements and onto centre stage as of late. Two or three years ago, people would have thought you a few cards short of a deck if you'd said that Irish dancing would be filling arenas and selling millions of videos worldwide. Yet, Irish dancing schools are bursting and Riverdance has three companies touring worldwide, with Lord of the Dance's two companies jiggling it up across North America and Australia.

Meanwhile, ethnic music is burning up the charts and "world beat" is a bona fide category. Suddenly, it's cool to be multicultural.

And as we begin to further explore our global village, customs and cultures are meeting each other at crossroads to cre-

ate new artistic hybrids. Edmonton-based teacher/choreographer/musician Usha Gupta is breaking new dance ground by fusing Kathak, the classical dance of North India, with modern dance to explore the relationship between the human senses and nature's seasons in *Passages—5 Senses with 5 Seasons*. This unique project features five local professional dancers (Tania Alvarado, Karrie Darichuk, Karen Guttman, Kathy Metzger and Kathy Ochoa) and live musicians (John Calverley, Ojas Joshi, Moni Mathew, Reinhardt Berg and Gupta), who have all collaborated with Gupta over the past year as part of the creative process. Also offering their support and advice were many of Edmonton's most respected performers, including Lynda Adams, Tamara Bliss, Jim Ross, David Skelton and Laurie Westman.

Gupta explains that many ancient cultures associated the five



Passages ▷ Lord of the Kathak

senses with the seasons of nature while the human being was looked upon as a microcosm of the creation—wind, water, wood, fire and

earth. In exploring these themes, *Passages* opens with "Touch-Wind-Autumn," moving into "Hearing-Water-Winter," "Sight-Wood-Spring," "Smell-Summer-Fire" and ending with "Taste-Earth-Harvest." As traditional instruments weave a spell of polyrhythmic melodies, the choreography infuses the intricate yet graceful Kathak style with the freedom of contemporary dance. The result is a fascinating, East-meets-West juggling of the senses.

"I chose to use mainly the Kathak style of classical Indian dance in this fusion for its portrayal of emotions and natural elements," explains Gupta. "The elegant and enchanting dance tradition of Northern India. Kathak combines the deep-rooted mythology of Hinduism with the subtle symmetries of Mughal aesthetics."

"It has been my life-long dream to create the kind of project where I can share my passion and emotions through nature and the sea-

son. When I was young, I was shown how a leaf falling into a stream created a wealth of effects on nature. The death of the leaf created life by fertilizing the earth and the life it created in turn perished but also gave rise to another life-cycle. I always wondered when I composed a piece of music or choreographed a dance why it always seemed to lead inexorably to a tragic part—and found that tragedy is only a small part of the big picture.

Nothing tragic about Gupta's dream becoming a reality—take a break from the seasonal mayhem and check out one of Edmonton's most talented and creative artists for a rare collaboration of Old World with New World.

Passages (Five Senses with Five Seasons)
Usha Gupta presented by Brian Webb Dance Company

John. L. Haar Theatre
Dec. 12-13

Janes make for untraditional holiday fare

THEATRE
BY AUDREY WEBB

PreVUE

Before the Industrial Revolution, families used to make their own gifts and provide their own entertainment at Christmas. Nearly everyone knew how to make some craft to offer as a token of affection. Whole families would lift their voices in song to celebrate the holidays.

Thank God those days are gone. Sure, there's been a lot of griping in recent years about the commercialization of Christmas. It's fashionable for folks to yearn for days gone by that were bygone before they were even born. We've become a society of perennial whiners pining for a simpler approach to the festive season.

Come on. Would you really

prefer to unwrap a handmade pair of Phentex slippers than the latest Puff Daddy CD? No, thanks. We have a capitalist system and industries that specialize in the production of high-quality goods. Let's make the best of it and enjoy the progress we've made.

As for relying on our own voices for entertainment, think about how many times you've had your Christmas season ruined by attending a sing-along performance of Handel's *The Messiah*. Can a candlelight church service really set your heart aglow if you have to suffer through a tone-deaf version of "Joy to the World?"

There are people who have spent years training and perfecting their vocal chords. Sit back and enjoy the fruits of their labors. Singing is one of those things that should be left to professionals.

Unless you are in the privacy of your own shower, leave the vocalization to people who know what they're doing.

Local theatre company Leave It To Jane is planning an event to make sure all your entertainment needs are met during the holidays without getting all mushy about the sentiments of the season. It's a capitalist venture, designed to raise funds for the company and it spits in the eye of tradition by presenting songs you would never hear piped over a P.A. system in any mall.

Bridget Ryan, Damien Atkins and a group of theatre students from Grant MacEwan College present *The 2 Janes of Christmas*, a cabaret evening featuring selections from musical theatre.

Ryan currently makes her home in New York City, but is back visiting family in Edmonton for the hol-

idays. She will be singing excerpts from her one woman show *Rant Control*. Fellow performer Atkins describes the songs as "folksy-sexy, jazzy, obscure musical theatre."

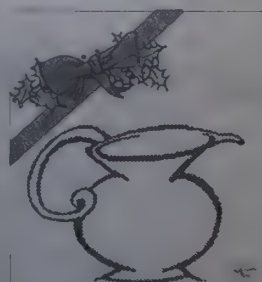
As for Atkins, he will be using the cabaret as an opportunity to do something he never gets to do anywhere else. His set will consist entirely of "girl" songs from popular musicals, such as "I'm Gonna Wash that Man Right Out of My Hair" from *South Pacific*.

No, Atkins will not be donning any gay apparel to do these pieces. They will, he assures, be performed "completely straight, without camping them up, without a wink."

For those of you who still insist the 12 days of Christmas should only be awash in unabashed sentiment, there will be a few concessions made. The show will be presented in an intimate candlelit set-

ting and some munchies and a smart cocktail will be included in the price of admission.

The 2 Janes of Christmas
John Walter Museum
Dec. 12-13

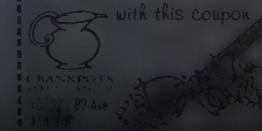


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Vue

Art exhibition comes from the heart

Art from the Unknown showcases the work of Edmonton's poor

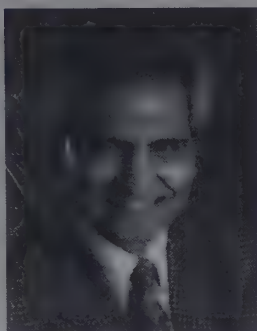
VISUAL ARTS FEATURE

BY DANIELLE ZYP

Many people assume that the poor have nothing to offer. Edmonton Strathcona MLA Raj Pannu (ND) and his assistant Flo Pastore are out to prove those people wrong with an upcoming exhibition called *Art From the Unknown*.

The exhibition will feature work from several low-income Edmonton area artists and is designed to focus attention on the issues of social justice and poverty. "People who are seen as poor, by most government and the powerful and well-off people, are seen as not having much to say. All of us, poor and rich, employed and unemployed, able-bodied and disabled, all of us have a great deal to say, perhaps in words, music or visual art," says Pannu.

Those words transformed into action have resulted in the upcoming display of works painted on canvas, carved in wood and created from various other media. The work produced for this exhibition is as diverse as the artists who created it. The unifying element that gathers the artists together is that they are all living on the edge. Supported by street activities, social assistance or low-paying jobs they create in relative obscurity, in some cases despite the devastating effects of homelessness, hunger or disability. These people have found the time and energy to make art as



Raj Pannu

well as merely survive.

"The so-called 'poor' are not poor culturally, they're not poor in terms of their talent, they're not poor in terms of ability and creativity," says Pannu. "We as a society should not get used to seeing the lower-income members of the community as worthless human beings."

Fighting the stigma of poverty

The stigma attached to being poor is pervasive in our wealthy society.

"The image or the message that the government sends out is that people who are on social assistance are deadbeats—and that's not true," says Todd Jones, executive director of Latitude 53 Society of Artists. Stereotypically, artists are known to be poor and starving but

17.1 per cent of all people living in Canada are living on a low income and 19.5 per cent of Canadian children live with low-income conditions according to the most recent survey available, compiled by Stats Canada in 1994. Artists on average in Canada earn \$7,800 annually according to a survey done in 1992. Things haven't changed much in five years. Most artists are still living well below the poverty line.

Pannu claims: "The conception of the poor as uneducated, unskilled and entirely poor is misplaced. They are confronted with social conditions and circumstances. It's unjustified and unreasonable to push such a creative bunch of people to the margin because some of them are disabled, out of jobs, or for other reasons of illness or family responsibilities cannot work." An exhibition like *Art from the Unknown* gives people from the margins of society a voice to fight the stigma of poverty.

Poverty the result of policy

"Poverty is not the result of people not wanting to work. Poverty is the result of policies such as minimum wage which in Alberta is the lowest in Canada and cutbacks in social welfare rates—these policies in effect create poverty," argues Pannu. A recent announcement by the Alberta government proclaims that even that insufficient amount may be abolished, leaving already low-income workers at the mercy of the free market.

Janes responds, "What is the role of the government? The government is there to protect people, to set regulations so that people aren't exploited."

According to a discussion paper published by Linda Sloan, Liberal MLA for Edmonton Riverview, the current government indicates that the unemployment rate is declining. However, the rate "tells nothing about the kinds of jobs that people are forced to accept, which are increasingly part-time, temporary and minimum wage jobs with-

out benefits—and with little hope of advancement...People who are employed constantly fear losing their jobs and many work long hours of unpaid overtime to try to avoid being fired. Those who try to improve their working conditions are threatened with loss of their jobs."

And for those not working, the situation is even grimmer. "The number of Albertans who require help is increasing but the province is providing less and less assistance. For example, more and more women and children require access to shelters, but shelter space is inadequate and social assistance rates for single parents with one child are 50 per cent below the poverty line and are the lowest in Canada. The government justifies cuts to assistance by ignoring the facts and by treating those who need help as 'undeserving' or as 'criminals.'"

The paper goes on to discuss other government policies which are decreasing our quality of life. "Funding for culture has also shrunk under the pressure of government...the government assesses the worth of a cultural endeavor not by whether it enriches people's lives and is accessible to everyone, but whether it 'makes a profit.'"

Giving poor people a voice

Art from the Unknown will likely not make a profit, it is free and accessible to everyone. Donations will be accepted at the door to cover costs. The exhibition is an opportunity to show some powerful and passionate artwork and it will provide a vehicle of expression for those living on the margins.

The voice of the low income members of society is rarely heard. One woman featured in the show who defines that dilemma is Theresa McBryan. Notorious from previous articles in this publication as "the garage lady from Bon Accord," McBryan gained a reputation when she was cut off welfare benefits in February of '97 and began living in her friend's garage. She toughed it

out for a while but now that the cold weather is creeping in again, she "camps out" with her kids. Traveling by the cheapest form of transport—hitchhiking—McBryan, at 51, journeys from child to child or to the Gibbons Pottery Guild where "I've got a foamy I throw on the glaze table."

McBryan is infuriated with the situation saying, "I'm not the only person this is happening to, there's a lot of people being thrown out of the system for very flimsy reasons." Feeling unfairly cut off, McBryan is one of the few who is taking her case to court. The battle has been brewing since her first appeal was heard April 10. The decision to cut her off was upheld. She then proceeded to Court of Queen's Bench and it was ordered that her appeal be heard again. A date for that has not yet been set.

Before she spoke out, McBryan was one of the many "invisible" poor.

"Poor people tend to protect themselves. Before I finally ran out of money and had nowhere else to go there were weeks when my boys and I had nothing to eat but potatoes...We lived like that for a year but I didn't tell anybody because I was still out looking for a job. If you go around looking for a job and you look like you need one, you're not going to get it. A lot of people keep up an image."

Art can change lives

McBryan is just barely getting by on her artwork. A talented potter and clay sculptor, she says it is tough being a low-income artist trying to find work space, affording materials and "the biggest thing is you spend a lot of time trying to make something that can pay the rent. That's time you can't get back. It cuts into the time you should be trying to dig a little deeper and come up with something more meaningful."

One important piece she's putting in the show that hasn't much commercial value is "The Poverty Tree." A large tree with leaves that tell personal stories and give statistics asks the question "How far up the poverty tree do you have to go before you find someone living in poverty?"

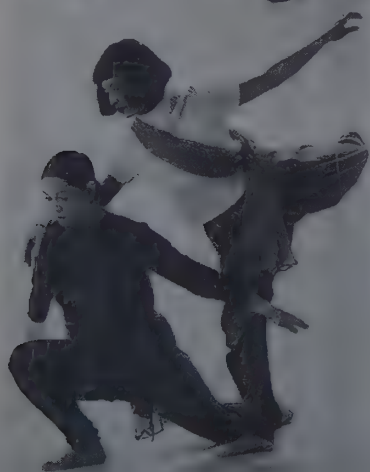
It could be someone in your family or perhaps someone you just met. But if you can't sell it, why make it?

Janes has an answer: "Visual Art is an incredible tool to activate social change because visual art is changing the ways of seeing. It's a shared experience, it's not me and them, it's us." Though it is possible to buy the art at *Art from the Unknown* you can go just to look and celebrate because as Pannu says, "We should be celebrating the work of these people because in spite of the great odds they are engaged in cultural activity which makes us all better human beings."

"Art from the Unknown" will open Dec. 18 and will feature live entertainment from Luann Kowalek and others, plus keynote speakers Jane Ash Poitras and Rev. Bill Phipps, moderator for the United Church of Canada.

Art from the Unknown
Arts Barn (West Entrance)
Dec. 18-21

Passages



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Theatre Notes

By Araxi Arslanian

Taking your woeful artistic lot a tad too hard these days? Here's a little TheatreNotes humor to get you back on track...

How many actors does it take to screw in a lightbulb?

- A. None, that's a techie's job.
- B. One; he holds it and the world revolves around him.
- C. Four; one to screw it in and three more to stand around saying they could have done it better.

What's the difference between God and a director?
God never pretended to be a director.

Snarf.
Now the news.

Got a hyperactive child you need to rid yourself of occasionally? Maybe you have some aspirations to tread the boards yourself? Are you an actor who wants to refresh your professional skills? The Citadel Theatre School winter semester shoots into orbit Jan. 5. Offering classes for children, youths and adults, the spectrum covers the novice performer to the adult...everything from acting, movement, voice and more. But many of the classes are already sold out! For more information call Margaret Mooney at 426-4811.

xxx

Attention all hams! The First Night Festival is looking for volunteers. Join the hundreds of thousands of E-town partiers to celebrate the new year—and maybe

see themselves on TV freezing their buns off. The Festival is calling for all kinds of folk to be costumed characters (at last a chance to put that hideous chartreuse bridesmaid dress to good use), activity helpers (child-vomit resistant bib not included), crowd management (cattle prod not included), you name it, they need it. Call Carolyn at 448-9200 or visit the office at #7 Sir Winston Churchill Square, 6th Floor, Stanley A. Milner Library.

xxx

Phase I of the Millennium Project is finally finished! Theatre Network has its own Walk of Fame... a sidewalk engraved with personalized bricks of true theatre lovers. If you have a theatre freak on your Christmas list, why not buy a brick in their name and launch not only Phase II but the company itself into the 21st century? Gift packages are available. Call Andy at 453-2440 for the skinny.

xxx

Speaking of Christmas shopping, how about another suggestion for the thespian in your life? *Standing In The Wings*, a collection of anecdotes from Canadian actors, is a great way to help your loved one through art-induced poverty. Over 200 Canadian actors divulged 600 stories about audition woes, prop mishaps, dropped lines and shows from hell. Sound familiar? The book is \$29.95 and is published by Oxford University Press. Contributors include Christopher "Coun-

terstrike" Plummer (ouch), William "Wigman" Shatner, Sarah "Forever Preteen" Polley, Martin "Eat My Short(s)" and Nora "Nevermore" McLelland, current star of the Citadel's *Hello Dolly*.

xxx

The Unconscious Collective is breaking some bones with its gritty urban drama, *No Walk In The Park*. But art doesn't grow on trees, alas. The company has dreamed up a fab new fund-raiser. The play has a wedding, so patrons of the Dec. 12 performance are asked to bring a wrapped gift for the nuptials. Along with several donations from local businesses, the gifts will be put up for a blind auction. Guest auctioneer is none other than Bill MacIntyre! Woo, what a hunk of television mass appeal! Kind of like Let's Make A Deal... you could get a trip to the Bahamas or a used disposable razor. Doors open at 9 p.m., the auction starts at 10 p.m. The show begins at midnight.

xxx

TheatreNotes would like to pass along a special congrats and thank you to playwright Gordon Portman. Acting as official dramaturge for Workshop West's *Springboards New Play Festival*, Gordon has been working his slender fingers to the bone. Giving validation, support, editing and non-stop energy to the projects of nine playwrights is something to be recognized and applauded. Be sure to buy him a lot of drinks.

xxx

Got some theatre news? Fundraisers, announcements, classes, auditions or any salient details for the fact hungry masses? Send it to THEATRENOTES c/o Araxi mail or in person to #307 10080 Jasper Avenue TSJ 1V9, phone 426-1996, fax 426-2889, or e-mail at <office@vue.ab.ca>

Vue AND access WEEKLY PRESENT The Education Station

"Movies Worth Watching"

Sirens

Commentary by: Jacques Benoit, Instructor/Course Developer, Athabasca University & Grant MacEwan Community College

Sirens, despite being a comedy, is what you would have to call a serious movie. By serious, I mean it is not a genre picture, it has got something to say—and it doesn't work like a documentary—even though the film's protagonist, Norman Lindsay, was a real Australian painter and the paintings we see represent the kind of work he did. There is a lot of obvious symbolism running throughout this movie and lots of intellectual discussions. This reminds me of the intellectual discussions about sex and eroticism found in the movie *The Decline of the American Empire*, directed by Denys Arcand. There are a number of points where this movie works as an intellectual movie. But *Intellectual*, I would like to remind everybody, does not necessarily mean *better*. I think this movie is a wish fulfillment, an escapist movie for the intellectuals.

When you summarize the plot of this movie—a woman's discovery of her true erotic nature—you can almost hear the brains clicking off. You can see it in their eyes. It is what a lot of guys refer to as a "chick flick," because of the nature of the material. It is about eroticism, the body and relationships to a lesser extent. It reflects something that a lot of critics of popular culture look for—gender preferences—the fact that men tend to prefer the big blow-up, action movies, while women tend to prefer movies that focus on relationships and the exotic and the erotic. This movie is an example of how "the movies" try to offer something for everyone whenever they can. The movie addresses the disdain a lot of guys have for all things feminine in popular culture—from romance novels to late '50s rock 'n roll music in America. It is something that we keep coming back to in popular culture, that it is primarily like computers have become today—a male arena. Whenever feminine interests enter into it, the critics of that popular culture turn on the feminine. This movie is valuable in that it critiques that very kind of disdain and celebrates all things feminine.

In this movie, the question becomes: How do you get men interested in something like *Sirens*? That is, assuming men and women have these different interests—and they can't possibly watch the same kind of movies. Well, one way, as we see it here, is to get someone like swimsuit model Elle Macpherson naked several times throughout the movie. The movie then begins to play two different audiences—male and female. They're watching for different things. You have to ask: Does this undermine the movie's serious intent by having this obvious appeal to lewd men? I guess the contradictory messages you get from that are softened a little by the fact that when Elle Macpherson does appear nude in this movie it is for artistic reasons. It is almost demure, the way her body is shown throughout the film. So, you have to wonder if in fact the use of Elle complements the eroticism and sensuality that the movie is essentially all about.

You also have another factor in *Sirens*—Elle's relationship with the minister's wife. The way she looks at the minister's wife sometimes seems homoerotic and therefore you have an appeal to, possibly, a third audience faction. This homoerotic notion that runs throughout the film plays interestingly, again, to the male voyeur. So, you have all these contradictory appeals and the way the movie plays to different audiences that it is full of possibilities.

Melodrama makes for good country fun

DINNER THEATRE *ReVUE* BY ARAXI ARSLANIAN

Flatland Jamboree is by far the best production I've seen at Jubilations. It incorporates hot country music—sung beautifully—with a quirky and entertaining plot.

The romping revue begins with Zeke (Rick Ash), a poor farmer who has been hearing a voice telling him to stage a country music jamboree in his field. The voice comes from the angel of Zeke's dearly departed grandma Betty Lou (Shelly Van Cauwenberghe). Betty Lou has to perform a good deed in order to get her wings—hmm, sound familiar—and God has sent her on a mission to unite her family. So Zeke, heeding the unearthly voice, sets up a stage and waits for people and entertainment to come.

So far the only entertainment he has is the unsolicited voice of his sister-in-law Kitty (Syreeta Molsberry). Zeke doesn't much like Kitty because she is conceited, overbearing and leads his brother, Joe (Dan Allen), around by the proverbial ring-in-the-nose. Thrown into the mix is the villainous neighbor Dixon (Jim Graham), the sweet ingenue Claire (Jacqueline Sneath) and the roving tabloid reporter Liz (Devra Straker). The questions are: Will Zeke make enough money to save his farm? Will Claire find her long-lost family? Will Dixon destroy his nemesis by getting him thrown in the looney bin? Will Kitty make it big in Nashville? And will Betty Lou ever get her wings? It's big-time melo-



Flatland Jamboree ▷ More fun than Pork Rind Day at Dollywood.

drama, folks.

All the performers are top-notch singers. Molsberry sings a version of "Blue" that makes you sit-up and say, "LeAnn Rimes who?" From the Nitty Gritty Dirt Band to Mindy McCready, all the music is used in its appropriate spot, enhancing the plot and giving insight into the characters.

And what a find the theatre found in Ash. His hillbilly act rivals that of the great Buddy Ebsen—a.k.a. Jed Clampett. I could actually feel dirt gritting in my teeth with every word he spoke. Ash certainly puts the "hey!" in hayseed.

If you want to see a man do the boot-scootin' boogie better than any other, Graham will fill the bill. Lighter than air, he

should perhaps give Brian Webb a call and ask for an audition. Van Cauwenberghe is also a force to be reckoned with; she has a beautiful voice and didn't lose her creaky, down-south accent for a minute.

Talent abounds in *Flatland Jamboree* and for once in my life I wasn't praying the play would end so I could undo the top button on my skirt—the Jubilations' fare is so yummy sometimes I tend to overeat. In fact, I thought it was perhaps too short. I definitely would have hung around to hear Molsberry do a version of Reba McEntire's "Fancy"—hint, hint.

Flatland Jamboree
Jubilations
Closes Jan 31

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Scream 2: The Review

FILM

BY RUSSELL HUNLEY

FADE IN: INTERIOR, FILM THEATRE

The theatre is filled to capacity with young university students, many of them drunk. An intrepid FILM REVIEWER, mid-'30s, ruggedly good-looking in an intellectual-type way, is making his way to one of the few remaining seats. He sits down beside a HEAVILY-MUSCLED YOUNG MAN, who doesn't acknowledge him. The muscled young man keeps sliding out of his seat not only because he is obviously very drunk, but also because he keeps attempting to put his hand up the front of the tight sweater being worn by the ATTRACTIVE YOUNG WOMAN sitting beside him.

ANOTHER ANGLE re-emphasizing how full the theatre is and showing another young man, the ORGANIZER of the event, in front of the screen. He begins to shout.

ORGANIZER

Thank you, thank you all very much for coming.
There are a few people that I have to thank...

Hooting is coming from the audience. Various people are shouting things like "take it off" and "start the show." There is also much profanity being shouted and people are throwing disposable paper coasters at the ORGANIZER.

ORGANIZER

(straining his voice to be heard)

Please, please if you hear me out, we have some prizes to give away.

The audience starts screaming for the prizes and the ORGANIZER gives in.

ANOTHER ANGLE, showing the FILM REVIEWER, the HEAVILY-MUSCLED YOUNG MAN and ATTRACTIVE YOUNG WOMAN. The voice of the ORGANIZER can just barely be heard:

ORGANIZER

We have a free t-shirt to the first person who stabs their date!

The HEAVILY-MUSCLED YOUNG MAN does not hear this announcement but the ATTRACTIVE YOUNG WOMAN definitely does. While fending off the groping of her date she reaches behind herself and pulls a long, heavy knife, almost a machete. It is not clear how it could have been hidden behind her. Reversing it in her hand, she drives the blade through the neck of the HEAVILY-MUSCLED YOUNG MAN who falls away, ripping off her sweater and more or less landing in the lap of the FILM REVIEWER.

The FILM REVIEWER is sprayed with blood. He nonchalantly pushes the HEAVILY-MUSCLED YOUNG MAN to the floor and takes out a note pad which in which he begins writing.

CLOSE UP of the FILM REVIEWER'S note pad. The FILM REVIEWER writes:

If you enjoyed *Scream* then you will probably enjoy *Scream 2*, though probably not as much. The reason you won't enjoy *Scream 2* as much is because it just like the first *Scream*. Once again, writer/director Wes Craven (the inventor of *Freddy* and *Nightmare On Elm Street* and countless other horror films) mines the horror genre that he helped to mold into the motivationless-mad-slasher-of-stupid-young-people movies that it is today.

Scream 2 begins with a preview screening of *Scream*. It is really not *Scream*, however, it is *Stab*. The Courteney Cox character, the sleazy reporter, has written a book about the events in *Scream* and the book has just been made into a movie called *Stab*. The preview screening of *Stab* is taking place in the small college town where the heroine of *Scream* (and hence, the heroine of *Stab*) is currently living. The heroine, played by Neve Campbell, is trying to get her life together. She's training, no irony intended, I'm sure, to be an actress. People start getting murdered and she starts getting phone calls. The second murder victim has a memorable death. Jada Pinkett plays the second murder victim, who is stabbed to death during the preview screening of *Stab*.

Things pretty much precede apace, with freshmen and sophomores getting hacked up, one about every 15 minutes. The police are helpless.

The hapless deputy, played by David Arquette, shows up to help but he is helpless. Is Neve Campbell's boyfriend in on the hacking? No, that would be too much like what happened in real life—that is to say too much like what happened in the first film.

Wes Craven is a master craftsman and *Scream 2* is satisfyingly filled with red herrings, suspense and lots of slashing.

It is obvious that he does not think much of certain young filmmakers who have made their mark in Hollywood in the last few years...

The ORGANIZER has just finished telling the audience that they can get a CD if they are the first to stab somebody holding a note pad. There is a brief scuffle and blood suddenly drenches the FILM REVIEWER'S note pad and it is grabbed away.

ANOTHER ANGLE showing the ATTRACTIVE YOUNG WOMAN jumping up holding the note pad. The FILM REVIEWER is clutching his throat, trying to stop the spurting of arterial blood. With his free hand he tries to make a "thumbs up" gesture though it may very well be a "thumbs down" as he is too weak to really do much of anything. He collapses across the body of the HEAVILY-MUSCLED YOUNG MAN.

FADE TO BLACK

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CAMPBELL A TEEN-IDOL SCREAM

Canadian film star wants more work, diverse roles

FILM

BY IAN CADOGAN
SPECIAL TO VUE WEEKLY

NEW YORK—Every generation of teenagers has heroes and stars unknown outside their generation. In a way, that's what makes teen idols special. If your parents knew who you were talking about, it wouldn't be as much fun talking about them. At the top of the list would be James Dean, the Rolling Stones, Jim Morrison, Janis Joplin and Kurt Cobain. (Elvis and the Beatles don't count because Ed Sullivan outed them to adults before they had made much of an impact on teens).

Scream 2 star Neve Campbell could make the list. In an age when "demographically correct" has replaced "underground," the Toronto-born actor has been discovered by teens and their younger siblings in the TV show *Party of Five* and last year's surprise hit *Scream*, which won the MTV award for best movie of 1996 and is fast approaching icon status at most North American high schools.

So who is Neve Campbell and why is she one of the hottest properties in film and TV? For one thing, she's 24 and has been onstage about as long as most of her fans have been breathing. She may be an overnight success, but it was a hell of a long night.

Campbell enrolled in Canada's National Ballet School when she was nine years old. She stuck with it until she was 15 and admits that if she seems more mature than most people her age, it's a result of six years of suffering for her art.

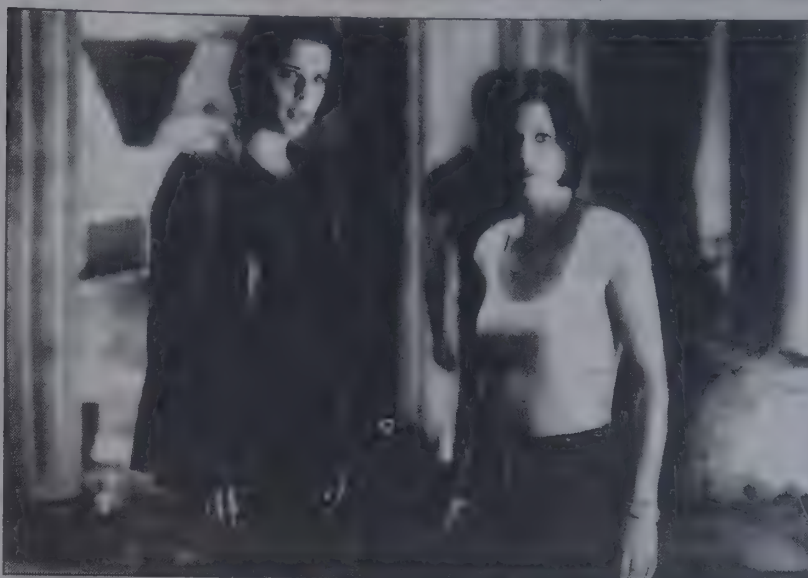
"I had hip problems and I had every injury in the book and I have arthritis already," she says in a room at the Essex House Hotel. "I got to a place where there was so much competition, so much politics, so much favoritism that I didn't appreciate dancing any more. Starting from nine years old, I was dancing at least three hours a day and then doing school. It's a lot of stress. It's a lot of hours and I couldn't take it psychologically."

"But if you love something, it doesn't matter how much work it takes—and it was also my way of expressing myself. Although dance is a very sick world and very masochistic in a sense, it was still something that gave me back a lot in a lot of ways. It was my way of releasing my emotions. I didn't grow up believing I could express my emotions, so being onstage and being able to express my emotions through a ballet character really helped me."

"The discipline is incredible. You're a professional athlete as a dancer. It's the top school, the National Ballet School, with 100 to 125 students and staff and a lot of psychologists. Although the best dancers come out of there, a lot of really troubled people come out of there too."

Campbell says she isn't a troubled person, but she plays them in the movies.

"I don't like playing characters who are really together. It's much more interesting to play characters who are having problems, because we can all relate to them," she says.



Neve Campbell and Courtney Cox in Wes Craven's *Scream 2* ▸ Terror-able twosome.

In *Scream 2*, which opens next Friday (Dec. 12), she again plays Sidney Prescott, who, in the first film, managed to survive the murder of her mother and most of her friends by her boyfriend. This time, Sidney is at university and a movie about the murders has just been released. It has spawned a copycat killer who is also into killing Sidney's friends. But the friends appear to be just practice, with the killer vowing that his real mission is to kill Sidney in the grand finale.

Julia, Campbell's *Party of Five* character, is a sensible-shoes type, so Campbell is taking movie roles that will show producers she has some range. Her next movie, *Wild Things*, directed by Henry: Portrait of a Serial Killer's John Naughton, co-stars Kevin Bacon, Matt Dillon and Bill Murray and has her playing a character she describes as a "bisexual, ex-convict drug addict." After that, she will be seen opposite Mike Myers in *54*, a movie about the notorious Manhattan nightclub Studio 54. She plays a soap-opera celebrity who "indulges in the sex, drugs and rock 'n' roll of the time."

Campbell says that despite a *Rolling Stone* cover, a successful TV series and a hit movie, she doesn't take things for granted. She feels if she doesn't keep proving herself during the show's hiatus, she might lose out on a lengthy career.

"I have to get to a place where I have a film career," she says. "I'm an entertainer, so people shouldn't expect me to stay in one place, because I have to stretch myself and try different kinds of characters and different kinds of films and try to have a large library of experiences and credits, a volume of work in which each part is dissimilar to the others. You always think, 'What is this going to do?' I don't have a responsibility to that sense to my fans. They have to acknowledge the fact that I'm an actor and that I have to do different things."

Campbell came to *Party of Five*

after appearing in the musical *The Phantom of the Opera*, the YTV series *Catwalk*, TV-movies and doing guest spots on several Canadian shows, including *The Kids in the Hall*, *My Secret Identity* and *Kung Fu*. She was working on a movie of the week in Toronto when the producers told her she should go to Los Angeles to meet with the network. She found a new manager down the hall from the producers' offices and within a few weeks had been sent out to audition for *Party of Five*.

The show could have lasted a month, but it has survived some bad ratings for a four-year run. Campbell says it continues to surprise her and the other cast members that the show has lasted as long as it has.

"You never know what's going to happen with shows," she says. "Success has a lot to do with what the networks are ready to support and what audiences are in the mood for that week. If they're not in the mood for it when the show comes out, then it will go away. We were just lucky that we had enough viewers who were persistent about writing in to *TV Guide* and that we had reviewers and critics who were really good to us, and that it all combined to save the show."

But she admits she could walk away from the show tomorrow and be quite happy.

"I have a contract for two more years and that's it," she says. "It's been great for my career. But I'm now being offered the features and I can't do them. I have to take smaller roles for people to see what I can do. That's very limiting as a film actor. It's not such a bad problem to have, but it's a little frustrating. I love the show, but it's a strange thing to be offered the career I want and I can't take it. So it's kind of a catch-22. I feel like I'm in a gilded cage. When the ratings went up, I was happy for the show but not for me. It's one of those things. The producers are coming in and they're gleeful because the ratings are going up and up and I'm going 'No, no, no.'"

Scream made more than \$100 million at the box office with a combination of 1980s-style gore and a genre-spoofing sense of humor. Campbell says that *Scream* was a hit because the script moved effortlessly between humor and terror.

"It's as scary as it is fun and you're living on a rollercoaster where you're scared one minute and then you're laughing your head off the next moment. There's something kind of absurd and quirky about that, but it's fun that way. I think that it's the fact that the film makes fun of itself; it makes fun of the genre. It takes a different twist on the genre and I think that's what people enjoy about it. It doesn't take itself too seriously."

"I wouldn't have done either that film or this one if I thought that it was just a slasher film or if my character wasn't interesting. You can do a film like this and be a typical victim but that's not creative. The point of it is to try to go against what is typical. Like my

character says in the first film, 'the image of horror is actors who are running up the stairs screaming but they can't act.' After that kind of statement, I had something to prove. I didn't want to play the victim, I wanted to be a stronger character. If a person goes through this kind of traumatizing, they're either going to be suicidal or they're going to choose the other extreme and say 'I am not a victim' and become stronger."

Wes Craven, who directed both *Scream* and its sequel, says another installment has been given the go-ahead by Miramax. Campbell has not signed up yet.

"I don't know if I'm going to do it yet. Just like I don't want to be pigeonholed as Julia, I don't want to be pigeonholed as Sidney. That's why I wanted to do another film on my hiatus as well as *Scream 2*. I wanted to have several films come out this year so that people don't just see me as either of those characters."

The work of choosing the right vehicles has paid off. Campbell's star is burning brightly—too brightly in some respects, she says, questioning why all the hard work has to result in an inability to attain a private moment.

"I wish it didn't have to be that way, but I also knew it was going to happen. If you get into this business and you put yourself into millions of living rooms every week, you have to expect that it's going to occur. You also have to expect that people are going to be intrigued by you. It's a little annoying when you realize that people are trying to create some persona of you and believe that the persona they've created is who you are. People are taking pictures of me through my kitchen window now and my neighbors are trying to shoo them away. It's a little disturbing when it's your private life and people are intruding on it. Sometimes I want to sit those people down and say, 'You know what, I'm sorry if I'm not pretending to be Marilyn Monroe, I'm sorry that I'm not the kind of girl who likes to play this [celebrity] thing up, but it's not who I am.'"

(Georgia Straight Syndicate)

SOUNDTRACK REVIEW

Scream 2
ost
(EMI)

There should be a new law created just for the music industry: it will state that film soundtracks cannot include repugnant, pointless remixes of well-known songs to stimulate CD sales and hype the film.

Films should hype themselves; and soundtracks should be well thought out collections of music, not a tool to promote a few chosen "alternative" acts. The *Scream 2* soundtrack, much like the very bad *Grow* soundtracks before it, features buzzbands doing rather pointless covers (less than Jake's *Sot al punt* doesn't do well for the Partridge Family standard "I Think I Love You" and while Jon Spenser's cover of the funky classic "Right Place, Wrong Time" is at least a somewhat worthwhile attempt, you still get the feeling

there's a marketing department out there pulling the strings) and even worse remixes of songs that don't need to be remixed.

Case in point is DJ Spooky's bastardization of Nick Cave and the Bad Seeds' already creepy song "Red Right Hand." The song, in its pure form, is a dark ballad which builds into an out-right-creepy chorus, complete with a church bell for effect. But the remix takes all the eerie elements (yes, they're using the song in a horror film) and replaces them with a canned beat, totally ruining the track. The song was good enough to appear as-is on the *X-Files* compilation, why screw with it this time around?

Other tracks by the Eels, Everclear and Sugar Ray might make this collection palatable for the cool skateboarding kids, but overall, this is another lame shot attempt.

Steven Soder

metro presents



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ReVUE

I work downtown and every time I step outside, panhandlers ask me for money. When I first started working downtown, about two years ago, I would scramble for change—more out of fear than compassion. But now I've perfected the art of saying, "Sorry, no" to the panhandlers. I'll give money to the institutions that help the homeless but I won't give money to panhandlers.

I started to become more cynical in my attitude toward the panhandlers after I had my share of stepping over the piles of puke that dot the downtown sidewalks. But there was one particular moment that made me vow never to give panhandlers anymore money. A

woman, reeking of booze, who was a regular outside my building would approach people and ask them for bus money. If a person didn't give her money she would scream after them, "fucker!", "asshole!" or, my all time favorite, "cunt!"

I took a long, hard look at her and thought to myself, "Well that's what I am to them—a mark. If I give them money I'm a sucker, if I don't I'm a fucker." I couldn't win.

When the film *The Street: A Film With the Homeless*, a documentary that details the lives of street people, came across my desk I was hoping there would be something in it to change my opinion of panhandlers—after all, we all would like an excuse to be charitable. But there wasn't. *The Street* confirmed my opinions that either way, I would be a sucker or a fucker.

The Street recently won the People's Choice Award at the 1997 Hot Docs! Canadian International Documentary Film Festival and it is easy to see why. *The Street* is a brutally honest look at people whose self-loathing is so extreme they refuse to accept help or help themselves—but blame society for all their ills.

Director Daniel Cross started making this documentary because he was interested in the sense of freedom that was associated with thumbing your nose at society and living on the street. As the film rolled on, both Cross and the audience soon realize that there is nothing wonderful or liberating about living on the street. Although films like *My Own Private Idaho* seem to romanticize life on the streets, the film *The Street* does not. This all makes sense, considering *My Own Private Idaho* was a work of fiction and *The Street* simply details the cold-hard facts.

Over a period of years the documentary studies the lives of three indigents: brothers Danny and John Claven; and Frank O'Malley. Danny is 25 and addicted to drugs and alco-

hol. John is in his early 30s and is addicted to alcohol. Frank is an ex-convict who served his time for murdering a security guard during a hold-up and is also addicted to alcohol.

We watch all three vow that they are going to get off the street and that they are not losers like the other homeless people. Then we watch them, in turn, receive help that could get them off the streets. Then we watch them self-sabotage their chances for a normal life. Their self-hatred is so extreme that they make masochistic choices that result in a metaphorical self-mutilation of their very souls. For example, Frank neglects a gangrenous toe and ends up getting his leg amputated—it didn't have to happen, he had access to medical care but perhaps he didn't feel worthy of it.

Through the film I kept wondering where their family was but I soon came to realize that it wouldn't matter if their family offered them a place of refuge—they'd purposely fuck it up as soon as they could. Every time Cross asked them how they were going to help themselves, their inevitable answer was, "Why don't you help me?"

I felt no pity for these men—and I'm struggling with this. I know I should feel some sort of compassion but truth be known, they already feel enough pity for themselves, what's mine going to help? *The Street* provides no easy answers. It doesn't tell you how wonderful people who live on the street are. It merely shows you three men who have had every chance and refused help.

The Street makes you think. And know what I think? I'm still not going to be a sucker.

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VIDEOPHILE

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EMILY BRONTË'S WUTHERING HEIGHTS
Starring Juliette Binoche and Ralph Fiennes

Emily Brontë's *Wuthering Heights* recaptures literature's most obsessive and cruel love story. Although the film was made in 1992 it has only been released on video recently. It pairs Juliette Binoche and Ralph Fiennes (that's pronounced "Raif," as in waf, darlings) before the two ever hit the big screen together in *The English Patient*.

I rented this film with some serious misgivings—I would never have cast Fiennes as the tragic romantic figure Heathcliff—but I was pleasantly pleased with his performance. Although physically Fiennes does not live up to the swarthy gypsy stereotype, the man can act.

The story is about Catherine (Binoche) and her adopted brother Heathcliff. When Catherine's father dies, her older brother Hindley (Jeremy Northam; Emma) takes over the household and designates Heathcliff to servant status. Resentment and anger grows in Heathcliff and his only joy in life is Catherine.

Catherine falls prey to some guard dogs and is taken in by the

Lintons—a genteel sort. While nursing Catherine back to health, the Lintons instill in her a sense of propriety and priority. When Catherine returns back home she is a changed woman, much to Heathcliff's chagrin. Catherine agrees to marry Edgar Linton (Simon Shepherd; Henry Y., 1988) because, although she loves Heathcliff, he is far below her station in life. Heathcliff then vows to make something of himself and ruin the Lintons and Catherine.

True enough, this is one of the oddest love stories ever told. When love is so strong it turns into hate it is hard to be sympathetic to either of the lead characters. It is a punishing watch—seeing Catherine and Heathcliff doing their best to ruin each other—but it is a compelling one nonetheless.

If you liked Fiennes and Binoche in *The English Patient* then you will love them in this sordid tale. Not only does the storyline of *Wuthering Heights* beat that of *The English Patient*, the characters are far more compelling.

(Amy Hough)

Myth a better-than-average family-reunion flick

FILM
BY JASON MARGOLIS

ReVUE

Traditionally, only turkeys had something to worry about come American Thanksgiving time, but lately movie audiences have also had cause for concern.

It seems that the dysfunctional-family-gathering film has become a genre unto itself—and the holiday of Thanksgiving is the watershed moment for many of these films. This year has already brought us Ang Lee's Thanksgiving flashback *The Ice Storm* and now—a little late for the season—we have *The Myth of Fingerprints*.

Remember Jodie Foster's noble disaster *Home for the Holidays* from a couple years ago? Well, then you've pretty much already seen *The Myth of Fingerprints*—allowing for two major exceptions. The first exception is *The Myth of Fingerprints* does not feature a wildly manic and enjoyable performance from Robert Downey Jr as the token gay brother. The second exception is despite not having a manic performance from Robert Downey Jr., *The Myth of Fingerprints* is a much better film.

The Myth of Fingerprints features E.R.'s Noah Wyle and many will flock to the cinema to see if this boy's got acting chops when he's out of the hospital. In this film, Wyle plays Warren, a wounded romantic returning to his parents' enormous New England home for the first time in three years. It

has been three years since his traumatic break-up with his hometown girlfriend Daphne.

Wyle also happens to be one of the producers of this film.

Also visiting for the holiday are Warren's siblings, some with their significant others. His sister Mia, a cold and aloof artist, has brought her husband Elliot. Brother Jake has brought along his girlfriend Hope, who he may or may not actually love. And little sister Leigh (Laurel Holloman, *The Incredibly True Adventures of Two Girls in Love*) runs around acting so spirited and perky it's surprising she doesn't have a significant other in tow.

Mia is played by Julianne Moore (*Boogie Nights*, *The Lost World*). Although Moore's character is rather rude and hostile, she is apparently quite the opposite during production as she wound up having a baby with this film's director.

The parental roles in this film are ably managed by Roy Scheider (*Jaws*) and Blythe Danner (*Mad City*). Scheider's Hal is frighteningly genuine in his portrayal of fatherly eccentricity, taunting his brood with unusual games like "What Time Is It?" in which none of the children are allowed to wear watches. That his eccentricity hides a deeper sadistic tendency is only too harrowingly revealed in a scene that grandly subverts the epiphany of *Home for the Holidays*.

The key storylines in this film involve Warren's reunion with Daphne, Mia's easing of hostilities and Jake's learning to love. Of these

three tales, Mia's is most interesting. While on a trip to town, Mia encounters her kindergarten sweetheart, a strange young man who has renamed himself Cézanne (James LeGros, *Living in Oblivion*). Although she is initially repulsed by him, Mia's fondness for Cézanne grows as he recounts a story from a novel she was unable to finish.

The Myth of Fingerprints contains several humorous moments, such as a debate on the taste of mustard and the uncomfortable topic of parents having sex. It also features some beautifully composed shots, tasty dialogue and all-around neat performances—all of which is drawing great recognition for first time writer and director Bart Freundlich.

Unfortunately, the film just doesn't offer anything fresh or new—except for the oblique title, which is not explained by any line or gesture in the movie.

The Myth of Fingerprints
Eaton Centre
Daily

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Cat film offers slice of life

ReVUE

FILM
BY RUSSELL MALVEY

Another light, breezy comedy. Only thing is, *When the Cat's Away* is neither light, breezy or much of a comedy.

It is a character study of a young woman in Paris. Her roommate is a gay man. She works as a make-up artist.

She has a cat. She really loves the cat. The cat goes missing. She undertakes to find the cat. She gets to know her neighbors and her neighborhood. Most of her neighbors are average people. She wonders why she cannot find a man. She wonders why she cannot find her true love. She wants her cat back.

There is something curiously compelling about this whole story. Garance Clavel plays Chloe, the woman who loses the cat, and she gives a very, very, unmannered performance. She gives every impression of really being a young woman who has lost her beloved cat and truly wonders why she cannot find true love. Or any love beyond that of her cat's.

The film follows her as she goes to work, as she spends time at home, as she goes to a bar and as she searches for her cat. We begin to understand her plight: a single woman whose loneliness is mitigated mostly, if not only, by her pet.

Director and writer Cedric Klapisch has made a film where the minutiae of somebody's life passes for a story.

It is interesting that many of the characters in this film are not professional actors. They are simply real people in the neighborhood and many of them use their real homes as their movie homes.

When the Cat's Away is too long by about half an hour. The details of the young woman's life are not that interesting—even to her—and certainly not interesting enough to sustain the entire movie but still, the film is worthwhile and will definitely find resonance with anybody who is convinced that their pet is the only real friend they have.

When the Cat's Away
Garneau
Daily



When the Cat's Away ▷ Felines, nothing more than felines.

Garofalo's performance fuels film

ReVUE

FILM
BY RUSSELL MALVEY

There is something really rather endearing about Janeane Garofalo. She is the comedienne-turned-actress best known for her role as the vet in *The Truth About Cats and Dogs* and she is the lead in a new film called *The Matchmaker*.

It is maybe that she does not look like the sort of leading lady Hollywood prefers. It is not that she is by any standard unattractive, it is just that she has this kind of "everywoman" sense about her.

Her latest film is a pretty much typical Hollywood romantic comedy, a genre that Garofalo seems to be specializing in.

She plays Marcy Tizard, a political aide to a not-too-bright senator. The senator's sleazy campaign manager, played by Denis Leary (*The Ref*), gets the bright idea that he will have a better chance of winning the imminent election if he explores his Irish roots. Towards this end, Tizard is sent off to find the senator's roots, which are apparently composting somewhere in rural Ireland. She finds herself smack in the middle of some sort of festival

where competing matchmakers desperately try to bring people together. One of the matchmakers, played by Milo O'Shea, immediately takes a liking to her and undertakes to find her a match. Her obvious match is the former journalist, played by David O'Hara but, of course, they claim they can't stand each other.

That *The Matchmaker* works at all is amazing. Director Mark Joffe (*The Efficiency Expert*) has an honest appreciation for clichéd romantic comedies and whereas everything is absolutely predictable there is a great deal of enjoyment in watching and waiting for it to happen.

The story itself is about as Irish as the leprechaun on a box of Lucky Charms but the scenery is magnificent, incorporating a kind of quaintness and magnificence. Thing are either small and cozy or large and intimidating.

That this film works is almost entirely because of Garofalo, who infuses the most mundane of stories with a fresh reading.

The Matchmaker
Cineplex Odeon
Daily

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SHOWTIMES DEC. 19 INCLUDES 11:45 AM OFFER PRICED AT 11:45 AM - 11 PM.

| | |
|---|--|
| A LIFE LESS ORDINARY M Ultra Stereo. Violent scenes. 2:35 7:50 PM. | MY BEST FRIEND'S WEDDING PG 4:00, 9:30 PM. Ultra Stereo. |
| AI FORCE ONE M Violent scenes, not suitable for young children. 2:05, 4:50, 7:35, 10:20 PM. SDOS Digital. | PLAYING GOD M Gory violence, coarse language. 12:15 2:30 4:45 7:10 9:25 PM. Ultra Stereo. |
| CON AIR M Brutal violence throughout. 1:25, 6:55 PM. Ultra Stereo. | RED CORNER PG Suggestive scenes. 1:40 4:30 7:15 9:55 PM. Ultra Stereo. |
| G.I. JANE M Violent scenes. 1:30, 4:20, 7:20, 10:05 PM. Ultra Stereo. | ROCKET MAN G 1:35 4:30 6:05 8:20 10:35 PM. SDOS Digital. |
| GEORGE OF THE JUNGLE PG 12:05, 2:15, 4:25, 7:00, 9:15 PM. DTS Digital. | SWITCHBACK M Violent scenes, not suitable for young children. 2:00 4:40 7:25 10:00 PM. Ultra Stereo. |
| MEN IN BLACK PG 1:20, 3:35, 6:10, 8:25, 10:45 PM. SDOS Digital. | THE EDGE M 1:35 4:10 7:05 9:45 PM. Ultra Stereo. |
| | THE GAME M 12:00 5:05 10:15 PM. Ultra Stereo. |
| | PEACEMAKER M 2:20, 5:00 7:45 10:30 PM. Ultra Stereo. |

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SHOWTIMES EFFECTIVE THU, DEC 11, 1997. DATE OF ISSUE ONLY
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| ROCKET MAN G 2:00 4:25 7:00 9:20 PM. | GEORGE OF THE JUNGLE (DTS) PG 2:15, 5:05, 7:30, 9:45 PM. |
| PLAYING GOD M 2:10 4:20 7:25 9:30 PM. | MY BEST FRIEND'S WEDDING PG 2:30, 4:50, 7:35, 10:00 PM. |
| SWITCHBACK M 1:45 4:35 7:20 9:40 PM. | G.I. JANE M 7:15, 9:55 PM. |
| A LIFE LESS ORDINARY M 2:25 5:00 7:40 10:05 PM. | HERCULES G 2:30, 4:35 PM. |
| THE EDGE M 2:05 4:30 7:05 9:35 PM. | THE PEACEMAKER M 1:55 4:40 7:20 9:55 PM. |
| MEN IN BLACK (DTS) PG 2:20 4:45 7:10 9:25 PM. | CONSPIRACY THEORY PG Violent scenes. 1:30, 4:45 PM. |
| AIR FORCE ONE (DTS) PG Violent scenes, not suitable for younger children. 1:40, 4:15, 6:55, 9:50 PM. | |

a MINUTE at the MOVIES by Todd James

ALIEN RESURRECTION Why let a little thing like death spell the end of a popular money-making franchise? Sigourney Weaver (*The Ice Storm*) returns as Ripley in this fourth instalment of the *Alien* series, set 200 years after our hero died while still carrying an alien seed. Thanks to that old standby—cloning—Ripley will again tangle with her nemesis. With regeneration carried out by scientists experimenting with human/alien hybrids, Ripley and her gestating alien friend are brought back aboard a specially built space lab. The newly-cloned Ripley is colder, more cynical and has more than a little alien in her own genetic make-up. Of course the slobbering one is back, breeding and waiting for its opportunity to chew up a few humans. Winona Ryder (*The Crucible*) plays Analee, part of a team of smugglers with their own secret agenda to stop the experiments. Ripley's character, given some of the alien's traits, offers a fresh dimension and it's needed because the rest of this ensemble cast including Ron Perlman (*Beauty and the Beast*) and Ryder, is not very interesting. Matters aren't helped any by some truly awful dialogue. The creature is given an update thanks to computer-generated effects but what we get is a pretty standard sci-fi horror flick that lacks the real heart-thumping jump-out-of-your-seat frights of the earlier instalments. It's predictable stuff punctuated by the usual large and messy helping of gore. **0 0 0**

ANASTASIA It's a sure sign of the holiday season when animated epics start showing up in droves. *Anastasia* is set in the post-revolution Soviet Union of the early 20th century. Meg Ryan (*Addicted to Love*) is the voice of Anya. She's unaware that she is in fact the princess Anastasia, one of two survivors of the Romanovs, the former ruling Russian dynasty. John Cusack (*Grosse Pointe Blank*) and Kelsey Grammer (*Frasier*) are the voices of Dmitri and Vladimir—a couple of con men who have devised a ruse to convince Anastasia's grandmother (Angela Lansbury, TV's *Murder, She Wrote*), that her lost granddaughter is still alive. Dmitri and Vladimir stumble upon Anya and, dazzled by her striking resemblance to Anastasia, convince her that she is the real princess. Forget about brushing up on your knowledge of Russia and the Soviet Union. In a bit of revisionist history, Rasputin, with voice provided by Christopher Lloyd (*Back to the Fu-*

ture) is an evil dead sorcerer who has laid a curse on the Romanovs. Together with an ever-present cutesy sidekick, a wisecracking albino bat (voice by Hank Azaria), Rasputin will stop at nothing to find and destroy Anastasia before she's reunited with her grandmother. Despite falling body parts, Rasputin is a surprisingly uninteresting and incapable villain. We've come to expect and we get spectacular animation but the lack of originality and drama in this anemic cartoon is palpable. Parents and kids alike will sense the lack of tension to the story—these just aren't characters who capture the imagination. Even the songs they burst into at every opportunity are far from memorable. You certainly won't be humming them after the lights are on. **0 0**

BOOGIE NIGHTS Mark Wahlberg (*Fear*) plays Eddie Adams, a young uneducated dishwasher blessed with an unusually large anatomical part which he uses to supplement his income. *Boogie Nights* is a dark comedy and realistic glimpse at the hardcore-porn movie industry in the late '70s era of drugs, disco and unrepentant sexual escapades. But Reynolds plays Jack Horner, the head of a pornographic movie empire who discovers Eddie's gift. Taking the stage name Dirk Diggler, Eddie quickly becomes a rising porn star. *Boogie Nights* is a sprawling movie with a large cast of characters including William H. Macy (*Fargo*) and John C. Reilly (*Hard Eight*). Julianne Moore (*Short Cuts*, *Benny and Joon*) is Amber Waves, Jack's wife, an established porn starlet and surrogate mother to the rising actors in her husband's empire. Dirk is increasingly seduced by drugs and money—and begins to think his talent goes beyond his physical attribute. He leaves Jack to strike out on his own with dangerous results. Despite the sexual nature of *Boogie Nights*, it's really about how these pathetic, very nearly tragic characters manage to survive thanks to this close-knit dysfunctional family unit. It's filled with black humor but also features scenes that are hair-raising and thought provoking with a cast that never falters and a killer soundtrack featuring oddly-catchy schlock from the '70s and early '80s. **0 0 0 0**

FLUBBER This remake of *The Absent-Minded Professor* captures the silliness and fun of the original with the added bonus of special effects never dreamed

of in 1961. Robin Williams (*Jack*) plays the eccentric but brilliant professor Philip Brainerd. He's so wrapped up in his experiments a little thing like the wedding to his sweetheart Sara (Marcia Gay Harden) is easy to forget. Cue perennial bad guy Chris MacDonnell (*Leave it to Beaver*) as Brainerd's rival, who tries to steal the professor's girl and his formula for a revolutionary new energy source dubbed "Flubber." The animated gelatinous goo is the real star in this slapstick romp. Kids should take to it like Jell-O pudding. **0 0 0**

THE MATCHMAKER Janeane Garofalo (*The Truth about Cats and Dogs*) takes her anti-stick to Ireland as the public relations lackey for a Massachusetts senator hoping to use his Irish roots to get re-elected in a hotly-contested campaign. In a small Irish town, in the midst of a matchmaker's convention, Garofalo rubs shoulders with the locals in hopes of locating the senator's kin for only mildly amusing results. This is a small and at times charming movie. Garofalo continues to be an appealing leading lady whose presence illuminates even pale films. **0 0**

THE RAINMAKER Francis Ford Coppola directs the sixth John Grisham novel to leap to the big screen—and it may be the least strident of the lot. Matt Damon (*Courage Under Fire*) plays Rudy, a young lawyer who takes on his first case against a powerful insurance firm and their team of lawyers, led by John Voight. Danny Devito plays Rudy's lone protégé, a law student who has failed the bar exam on six separate occasions. *The Rainmaker* is spared the humorless fate of other Grisham novels thanks to a large dose of dry, dark comedy. This David-and-Goliath story is helped along by newcomer Damon's charming performance and a cast that includes quirky appearances from Mickey Rourke (*Angel Heart*, *Barfly*) as a Memphis lawyer with deep mob ties, Danny Glover (*Lethal Weapon*) as a liberal judge with a soft spot for nailing fat cats and Claire Danes (*Romeo & Juliet*) as an abused wife taken in by Rudy. **0 0 0**

STARSHIP TROOPERS Subtlety is not a part of director Paul Verhoeven's (*Basic Instinct*, *Showgirls*) vocabulary—but then who needs subtlety when your subject is giant alien insects attempting to take over the planet? Verhoeven creates a loud, brash and extremely violent science fiction adventure based on a Robert A. Heinlein story and starring a largely unknown cast of exuberant young actors. In this distant future the planet is divided into two groups, those who serve in the military and those who do not. To be part of the military is to be assured of a life of glory. Casper Van Dien plays Rico, a young college graduate who joins the federal infantry not for patriotic reasons but to win the heart of Carme (Denise Richards), a budding starship pilot who is being wooed by Rico's rival

(Patrick Muldoon). The first hour of *Starship Troopers* is very nearly a send-up of every life-in-the-army movie made and it's an opportunity to get to know this likable cast that includes Jake Gyllenhaal and Neil Patrick Harris (you know him as Doogie Howser). When the bugs finally do arrive (after annihilating several million humans on Earth), the blood and guts fly liberally. This is one of the goofiest gore-fests I've seen in a while and it's not for the squeamish. Despite the high-tech special effects, director Verhoeven allows for a lot of campy fun. This movie does not take itself seriously, allowing for the kind of tongue-in-cheek humor that made another alien invasion movie, *Independence Day*, such a huge success. **0 0 0**

TUE Ratings

X Awful
Bad
V Poor
V Good
V Very Good
V Excellent

Todd James hosts "A Minute at the Movies," heard daily at 6:25 a.m., 9:25 p.m. and 5:50 p.m. on K-97. Also catch Todd on TV News Fridays at 10 p.m.

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| HOME ALONE 3 Daily 12:00, 2:00, 4:00, 6:00, 8:00, 10:00 PM No passes accepted. (D) Digital No 7:10 PM show on Dec. 18 | SCREAM 2 Daily 1:00, 3:00, 5:00, 7:00, 9:00, 11:00 PM No passes accepted Brutal violence & coarse language No 7:00 show on Dec. 17 | THE JACKAL Daily 1:00, 3:00, 5:00, 7:00, 9:00, 11:00 PM Brutal Violence & Coarse language Presented in Digital Theatre Sound. No 6:55 PM show on Dec. 13 | SPECIAL SNEAK PREVIEW OF AS GOOD AS IT GETS AT 7:00 PM ON DEC. 13 |
| RICHER OR POORER Daily 1:30, 4:00, 6:30, 9:00 PM No passes accepted. Outstanding scenes not suitable for children | ANASTASIA Daily 1:35, 4:05 PM FULL MOON Daily 7:25, 9:40 PM Violent scenes & coarse language | FLUBBER Daily 2:00, 4:35, 6:45, 9:10 PM | WEST MALL 8 West Edmonton Mall • 444-1827 Phase III Entrance 2 • 444-1827 |
| ANASTASIA Daily 1:30, 4:00 PM Brutal violence & coarse language Presented in Digital Theatre Sound | HOME ALONE 3 Daily 1:00, 3:00, 5:00, 7:00, 9:00, 11:00 PM No passes accepted | ALIEN RESURRECTION Daily 2:00, 4:00, 6:00, 8:00, 10:00 PM Gory violence, coarse language | SCREAM 2 Daily 1:10, 3:40, 6:10, 8:40, 11:10, 1:40, 4:10, 6:40, 9:10, 11:40 PM No passes accepted. Brutal violence & coarse language |
| RICHER OR POORER Daily 1:15, 3:45, 6:15, 8:45 PM No passes accepted. Coarse language | STARSHIP TROOPERS Daily 1:40, 4:10, 7:10, 9:40 PM Gory Violence. No 7:10 PM show on Dec. 13 | SPECIAL SNEAK PREVIEW OF AS GOOD AS IT GETS AT 7:00 PM ON DEC. 13 | CAPITOL SQUARE 11111 170th Street • 444-1223 |
| 7 YEARS IN TIBET Daily 7:00 PM. Mat. Sat/Sun 2:00 PM | HANGING GARDEN Daily 7:40 PM. Coarse language & Sexual content | BOOGIE NIGHTS Daily 8:00 PM. Mat. Sat/Sun 2:00 PM. No 8:00 PM show on Dec. 15, plays at 8:40 PM only | STARSHIP TROOPERS Daily 7:10 PM. Mat. Sat/Sun 2:30 PM. Gory violence. No 7:10 PM show on Dec. 13 |
| I KNOW WHAT YOU DID LAST SUMMER Daily 8:30 PM Violent scenes & coarse language | MIDNIGHT GARDEN OF GOOD & EVIL Daily 8:30 PM No Sat/Sun 2:10 PM. Coarse language | WHITEMUD CROSSING 4211-186 Street • 434-2090 | ALIEN RESURRECTION Daily 7:10, 9:25 PM Gory violence. Coarse language |
| HOME ALONE 3 Daily 8:45, 9:00 PM Mat. Sat/Sun 10:30 PM No passes accepted | SCREAM 2 Daily 7:00, 9:20, 9:35, 9:55 PM No Sat/Sun 10:30, 10:40, 11:15 PM No passes accepted. Brutal violence & coarse language | ANASTASIA Daily 8:55 PM Mat. Sat/Sun 1:30, 4:00 PM | THE JACKAL Daily 9:15 PM Brutal violence & coarse language. Presented in Digital Theatre Sound |
| RICHER OR POORER Daily 1:30, 4:00 PM Mat. Sat/Sun 1:45, 4:30 PM Coarse language. No passes accepted | WEST MALL 8 West Edmonton Mall • 444-1827 Phase III Entrance 2 • 444-1827 | ALIEN RESURRECTION Daily 7:00 PM. Mat. Sat/Sun 1:40 PM. Presented in Digital Theatre Sound | HOME ALONE 3 Daily 1:30, 4:00 PM. No passes accepted |
| RICHER OR POORER Daily 1:40, 7:25, 9:40 PM. Mat. Sat/Sun 4:10 PM. No passes accepted. Coarse language. | SCREAM 2 Daily 1:20, 7:00, 7:10, 9:30, 9:55 PM. (Mat/Sun) 3:20, 4:20 PM. No passes accepted. Brutal violence & coarse language | OPEN NIGHTLY 6:15 MATINEES 12:30 PM | ROCKY Daily 7:05 PM. Mat. Sat/Sun 1:00, 3:00, 5:00 PM |
| PEACEMAKER Daily 7:05 PM. Violent scenes | A LIFE LESS ORDINARY Daily 6:55, 9:15 PM. Mat. Sat/Sun 2:00, 4:30 PM. Violent scenes | THE EDGE Daily 6:45 PM. Mat. Sat/Sun 1:30, 4:00 PM | SWITCHBACK Daily 9:30 PM. Violent scenes, not suitable for pre-teens |
| PLAYING GOD Daily 7:20, 9:50 PM Mat. Sat/Sun 1:45, 3:30 PM. Gory Violence, coarse language, not suitable for pre-teens | MEN IN BLACK Mat. Sat/Sun 1:10, 3:10, 5:10 PM | GEORGE OF THE JUNGLE Mat. Sat/Sun 2:15, 4:40 PM | AIR FORCE ONE Daily 7:10, 9:40 PM |

Vue movies

Metro Cinema
Ziedler Hall, Citadel Theatre
8828-101A Ave. 425-8212

THE STREET: A Film With the Homeless (1996) A gutsy, raw, candid and deeply troubling look at three homeless Montrealers. Director Daniel Cross spent five years immersed in the homeless community, befriending three drug- and/or alcohol-addicted men living at the margins of our society. By humanizing these men, the filmmakers hold up a metaphorical mirror with which to gaze into our own hearts in the hope of closing the gap that exists between "us" and "them." (Dec. 12-13, 8:00 p.m.) All proceeds go to the George Spady Centre, a hospice for street people in Edmonton's downtown core.

Alternative Video Spot

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10050 - 82 Ave. • ph. 439-2233 • fax 433-1409 (WE RESERVE)

<http://www.compumart.ab.ca/altvid/>

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GAMERA: GUARDIAN OF THE UNIVERSE

RECORD

DVD'S FOR SALE & RENTAL

THE BEST VIDEO STORE IN TOWN

Night Clubbing

Listings are FREE • VUE FAX 326-2889 • Deadline 3:00 pm Friday

ALTERNATIVE

AREA 51

11725B Jasper Ave.
413-0147
every WED: Extreme Metal
every THU: Orgasmatron-Underground Metal
every FRI: Matt Playing Grind, Death, Hardcore, Punk...Old and New
every SAT: Live
every SUN: All Ages Live
SAT 13: Cap'n Nemo, Mole City
WED 17: Blue Locutus
FRI 19: Broken Noise, Lure, Drone
SUN 21: Choke-CD Release, Layaway Plan, Hoppers, 50 Cents - all ages

THE COBB

10145-104 Street.
420-6811
every FRI-SAT: DJ Deep Sky, DJ Dragon, DJ Spider

KASOLINE ALLEY

10993-124 Street, 448-0181
SUN 20: Piano Bar with Just Mickey

KEO LIKID BAR

10044-82 Avenue, 433-5794
every THU: Alternative of the Ages with DJ Schizo
every FRI-SAT: Lagerpalooza with Grandmaster Whizzer

HENRY'S HORSE PUB

4211-106 Street, 988-8881
every FRI-SAT: New & Classic Alternative with DJ Trigger

LOCA'S

8230-103 Street.
436-4793

every THU: New York Groove

MICKY FINN'S

2 Flr, 10511A-82 Avenue,
439-9852

every SUN: Open Stage Hosted by Everett LaRo

NEW CITY LIKID LOUNGE

10161-112 Street, 413-4578
every MON: DJ Chris "Weirdo" Johnson
every TUE: DJ Goodtimes
every WED: DJ Spill Milk-Trip-hop, Hip-hop, Ambient
every THU: DJ Orange County Keith and the Ski Man
every FRI-SAT: DJ Goodtimes
THU 11: 10' Henry, Another Midnight Revival

REBAR

10551-82 Avenue, 433-3600
every SUN: DJ Big DaDa
every MON: Delicious DJ Brian
every TUE: the Higher Level Hip-Hop with Co-defendants, Downstairs Punk, Sia & Rock 'n' Roll
every WED: Aqua Rhythm with DJ Dragon & Dr Fong
every THU: Upstairs-Classic 80's with Mikey Doing That Flashback Thing
every THU: Downstairs-DJ Code Red
every FRI-SAT: DJ Mikee
FRI 13: Skavenjah, the Skeletones

REV

10030-102 Street,
423-7820
FRI 12: Whoremoans, Pelt, the Hummers
THU 18: the Maybellines, Robin Hunter, Shem
FRI 19: Choke -CD Release Party
SAT 20: Amber 416, Namesake

THE ROOST

Private Member's Club, 10345-104 Street,
426-3150

every MON: DJ Big Daddy
every TUE: DJ Bryn the Big Mac
every WED: DJ Latin Lover
every THU: DJ Dark Daddy
every FRI: Down-DJ Weena Love
every FRI: Up-DJ Alvaro
every SAT: Down-DJ James
every SAT: Up-DJ Code Red
every SUN: DJ Who the @#! is Alice

ROSE BOWL DOWNTOWN

10111-117 Street, 482-5152
every SUN: Jam
SUN 14: Santa's Anonymous Benefit with Mike McDonald, Hookahman, Invisible Jug Band, Fat Tuesday, Twang, Agent Bumbo, Mole City, Chris Smith, Cory Danyluk, Painting Daisies, Lester Quizau

BLUES & ROOTS

BLUES ON WHYTE

10329-82 Avenue, 439-5058

every SAT aft: Blues Jam
THU 11-SUN 14: Jimmy Payne & the House of Payne
MON 15-SUN 21: Ray Lemelin

MANOY'S BLUES BAR

10375-59 Avenue, 988-5455
every FRI: Blues Jam Hosted by Soul 4 You
every SAT: 90% Blues Jam Hosted by Harpdog Brown
SAT 13: Russell Jackson

BOPPS & COOK

8130-103 Street, 433-2823

FRI 19: Harpdog Brown

CATALYT

10943-84 Avenue, 431-1750
WED 17-SAT 20: Christmas Carol Project

CHATEAU REBOUT

12323 Stony Plain Road, 482-5442
every SAT: Live Middle Eastern Music

CITY MEDIA CLUB

6005-103 Street, 433-5183
SAT 13: Paragon

CLUB MACADAMIA

10816-95 Street, 425-5338
every SUN: Jammin' & Madness (Open Jam)

CORK'S

10407-82 Avenue, 433-1969
every SUN: Acoustic Open Stage with José Oiseau
THU 18: the Corb Lund Band, Trevor Rockwell

CROWN & DERRY

13103 Fort Road, 478-2971

FRI 12-SAT 13: Dwayne Allen
FRI 19-SAT 20: Lionel Rault

EDMONTON QUEEN

Rafter's Landing, 424-2628
every FRI-SAT: Darrell Barr & the Rafter's
THU 11: Hot Cottage
THU 18: Rockin' Highliners

FESTIVAL PLACE

100 Festival Way, 449-FEST
SUN 21: Fireside AI

KASOLINE ALLEY

10993-124 Street, 448-0181
every WED: Billy Joe Green and the Rough and Ready Blues Band

KREAT CANADIAN BAGEL

8623-112 Street, 434-0460
every SUN: Acoustic Open Stage

GRiffin CONSOFT

Holy Trinity, 10037-84 Avenue, 433-5530
SAT 13: Christmas Concert with the Revellers

JESS LEE'S ON JASPER

Mayfair, 10815 Jasper Avenue, 414-6211
every MON-SAT: Live Blues/Country
During Happy Hour
every SUNaft: Blues/Country Jam Session
every SUN: Billy Joe Green and the Rough and Ready Blues Band

LA MADAMA

10238-104 Street, 424-5939
FRI 12-SAT 13: Tito Paiz & Banda Amistad
FRI 19-SAT 20: America Rosa

LIBRARY LOUNGE

1113-87Avenue, 439-4981
every WED: Open Stage Hosted by Darcy Greaves & Humberto Medeiros
every SUN: Open Stage Hosted by Lisa B & Humberto Medeiros

MISTY ON WHYTE

10458B-82 Avenue, 433-3512
every MON-Open Stage Hosted by Dan Francis

MOODY WATER

8211-111 Street, 433-4390
FRI 12-SAT 13: Bill Bourne

NEEDLE'S CAFE & BAR

10025 Jasper Avenue, 990-1212
every THU: Blues Jam hosted by Rob & Pops

SARIENA'S

10158-97 Avenue, River Valley, 421-8904
every WED: Folk Open Stage Hosted by Brian Gregg

SIDETRACK CAFE

10333-112 Street, 421-1326
THU 11-SAT 13: the Rockin' Highliners
MON 15: Painting Daisies Open Stage
TUE 16: Zappacosta
WED 17: Mark Sterling & his Blues Compadres
THU 18-FRI 19: Godiva
SAT 20: Kit Kat Club

UPTOWN FOLK CLUB

Parish Hall, 12116-102 Avenue, 462-0463
FRI 19: Caedmon, Confluence

COUNTRY

ION DISCOTHEQUE

10045-109 Street, 413-3476
every TUE: Country Karaoke & Country Dance

IRVING HOTEL

3945-118 Avenue, 479-3929
every FRI-SAT: Second Chance Band
every SUN aft: Second Chance Band

JESS LEE'S ON JASPER

Mayfair, 10815 Jasper Avenue, 414-6211
every MON-SAT: Live Blues/Country
During Happy Hour
every SUNaft: Blues/Country Jam Session

WESTING SALOON

16648-109 Avenue, 444-7474
every TUE: TV Vocal Search
THU 11-SUN 14: Texcana
WED 17-SUN 21: Prairie Knight

RANCHMAN'S

15540 Stony Plain Road, 483-1100
every MON-TUE: DJ Phil

WILD WEST

12912-50 Street, 476-3388

every SAT aft: Jam
every TUE: Jam
THU 11-SAT 13: Five Wheel Drive
TUE 16-SAT 20: Gypsy & the Rose

POP & ROCK

BILLY BUDD'S

9839-63 Avenue, 438-1148
every THU: Open Stage
FRI 12-SAT 13: Rocket Scientists

BLACK DOG

10425-82 Avenue, 439-1082
SAT 13aft: Twang
SAT 20aft: Bill Bourne

CLAYVIEW PUB

#104, 550 Victoria Trail, 414-1111
every SUN: Open Stage & Jam Hosted by the Edmonton Musician's Club
FRI 12-SAT 13: China White
WED 17: Billy Joe Green
FRI 19-SAT 20: Typhoid Mary

DIMWOOD LOUNGE

SUB. U of A, 492-0770
TUE 16: Captain Tractor (for U of A students, staff, alumni and their guests)

ELPHANT & CASTLE

WEM, 444-3555
FRI 19-SAT 20: Dave Hebert

KASOLINE ALLEY

10993-124 Street, 448-0181
THU 18-FRI 19: Third Stone

LOVE HEAD PUB

4440 Calgary Trail, 437-6010
THU 11-SAT 13: Tony Dizon
MON 15-SAT 20: Doug Stroud

MARIO'S

4990-92 Avenue, 466-8652
every THU-SAT: Rare Occasion

NEW CITY LIKID LOUNGE

10161-112 Street, 413-4578
every WED: Open Stage Hosted by Doc Aroyo
THU 11: 10 Ft. Henry, Another Midnight Revival

FRI 12: Mad Bomber's Society, The Cleats

RED'S

WEM, 481-6420
every SAT: Red's Rebels

ROCK CENTRAL STATION

Kingsway Inn, 10812 Kingsway Ave, 479-4266
every SUN: Jam Night

ROSE & CROWN

Sheraton Grand, 428-7111
every TUE-SAT: Lyle Hobbs

STOP THE CHEVYOT WINE

Bonnie Doon Hall, 9240-93 Street
THU 11: Painting Daisies, Tacey Ride, Dale Ladouceur & the Mavens, Mike McDonald, Bill Bourne (6pm)

SHERLOCK HOLMES ON WHYTE

10341-82 Avenue, 433-9676
every WED & SATaft: Robert Walsh & Farley Scott

TAC'S PLACE

9855-76 Avenue, 439-1901
every TUE & FRI: Open Jam

JAZZ

HENRY'S BARELS

8409-112 Street, 413-4476
every SAT the Mike Rud Trio

BLACK DOG

10425-82 Avenue, 439-1082
every SUN: Root Down-Live Acid Jazz

DEVILIN'S

10507-82 Avenue, 437-7489
every MON: Kiss & Tell-Live Acid Jazz Trio
every THU: Acid Jazz

FANFOS

10307-82 Avenue, 433-4526
every WED: Live Jazz

GOODFELLOWS

10160-100A Street, 428-8887
every FRI-SAT: Brett Miles

GRASSJABBA

125 Street & 102 Avenue, 447-2029
FRI 12: Bounce
FRI 19: Bounce

IRON BRIDGE

12520-102 Avenue, 482-5620
SAT 13aft: Judy-Anne Wilson

LA ROUTE

Crowne Plaza, 10111 Bellamy Hill, 428-6611
every THU-SAT: John Fisher & Johanna Sillanpaa

NINA'S

10139-124 Street, 482-3531
FRI 12-SAT 13: Andrew Glover-Piano

SECOND CUP 140 STREET

8902-149 St., 481-1238
FRI 12: Mr. Lucky

SECOND CUP JASPER AVE

11210 Jasper Ave., 421-4480
SAT 13: Mr. Lucky

SECOND CUP WHITE AVE

10402-82 Ave., 439-8097
TUE 16: Janis Hurlburt

SORRENTINO'S

10162-100 Street, 424-7500
FRI 12-SAT 13: Dave Herrick, George Koufogiannakis

STATION X

7704-104 Street, 413-7064
every WED: Stephen Hoy & Pazzport

VAUGHN SUITE

10203-86 Avenue, 432-0428
FRI 12-SAT 13: A Jazz Christmas with the Tommy Banks Trio and Rhonda Withnell

ZINAH'S ON 1ST

10117-101 Street, 425-6151
FRI 12: Mike Rud Trio
FRI 19: Lina Allemano Trio

CLASSICAL

ALBERTA COLLEGE CONSERVATORY

Muttart Hall, 10050 Macdonald Dr., 425-7401
FRI 12: Festival City Winds Christmas Concert
SAT 13: Conservatory Christmas at Winspear

SUN 14: Pianist Xin Xin

MON 15: Allison Storochuk-Clarinet, Roger Admiral-Piano

EDMONTON EDWARDS SINGERS

City Hall, 435-1464
SUN 14: Christmas Concert

COSMOPOLITAN MUSIC SOCIETY

8426-103 Street, 432-9333
FRI 12-SAT 13: 32 Annual Christmas Concerts

DA CAMERA SINGERS

Robertson-Wesley, 10209-123 St, 436-4160
SAT 20: Festival of Lights

EDMONTON SYMPHONY ORCHESTRA

Winspear Centre, 9720-102 Ave., 428-1414
FRI 19-SUN 21: Messiah

FACULTY OF EDUCATION YOUTH CHOIRS

First Presbyterian, 10025-105 St., 422-2937

SUN 14: Celebrating the Season

FESTIVAL CITY WINDS

Eva O Howard Auditorium, Vic Camp., 10210-108 Avenue, 425-7401
FRI 12: Winter Concert

AREA 51
PRESENTS
FRIDAY, DEC. 13
CAPTAIN NEMO
MOLE CITY
WEDNESDAY, DEC. 17
BLUE LOCUTUS
MOLE CITY
FRIDAY, DEC. 19
BROKEN
LORE
THURSDAY, DEC. 21
CD RELEASE
ALL AGES
w/ Layaway Plan
Hoppers 50 Cents

UPCOMING EVENTS:
WED. DEC. 31
PERCEPTUAL DISTORTION
FAREWELL SHOW
OPEN WED-SAT FROM 6 PM
THURSDAY: METAL
INO COVER!
DRINK SPECIALS EVERY NIGHT
LIVE MUSIC WED., FRI., SAT.

AREA 51
11725B JASPER AVE.
413-0147

THURS. DEC. 11
VANCOUVER'S **10 FT. HENRY** WITH **ANOTHER MIDNIGHT REVIVAL**
FRIDAY, DEC. 12

Mad Bomber Society
&
THE CLEATS
NEW CITY
LIKID LOUNGE
10161-112 ST. • 413-4578 for info

CHEAP JUGGS OF DRAFT! 4 BUX!

FIRST BAPTIST CHURCH CHOIR

10031-109 Street,
467-5852
SUN 14: Christmas at Home and Elsewhere

GREENWOOD SINGERS

All Saints' Cathedral, 10039-103 St.,
451-8000
MON 15: Music for Christmas

PRO CORO CANADA

RUSH save 50%

available on day of performance only.
McDougall Church, 10025-101 St, 420-1247
Fri, 12, SUN 14: Pure Voices! A Pro Coro Christmas

WINDHAM CENTRE

9720-102 Avenue, 428-1414
SAT 13: Alberta College's Conservatory Christmas at Winspear

KARAOKE

109 DISCOTHEQUE

10045-109 Street, 413-3476
every TUE: Karaoke

BOB & DUCK PUB WEST

180 Mayfield Common, 489-7766
every THU & SUN: Karaoke

445 FUNK

114 Street & 102 Avenue, 488-4843
every TUE-WED: Goofy Gord & Pretty Pauline's Karoke Show

GRINDER

10957-124 Street, 453-1709
every TUE: Karaoke Contest

MARIO'S

4990-92 Avenue, 466-8652
every FRI: Karaoke

JOLLY'S

9945-50 Street, 466-3232
every MON, THU, FRI: Karaoke

PIG & WHISTLE

9912-82 Avenue, 432-0188
every WED & SAT: Karaoke

HOSEBOWL DOWNTOWN

10111-117 Street, 482-5152
every WED: Karaoke

ROSIE'S

10604-101 Street, 423-3499
every WED-SAT: Karaoke

SHAKESPEAR'S

10805-105 Avenue, 420-1679
very THU: Karaoke with Deanna Licorice Whip

STRATHEARN

9514-87 Street, 465-5478
every WED: Karaoke

SNA-NA-NA

10123-112 St., 423-3838
every MON: Karaoke

SPONTANEOUS

145, 8170-50 Street, 462-6565
every TUE: Karaoke

WILD HORSE SALOON

Continental Inn, 16625 Stony Plain Road,
484-7751
every MON, SUN: Karaoke

WILD WEST

12912-50 Street, 476-3388
every TUE: Karaoke

LIVE COMEDY

ELEPHANT & CASTLE

WEM, 444-3555
MON 15: Yuk Yuk's Comedy with Darryl Lennox and Carter Horte

RED'S

WEM, 481-6420
every FRI: Atomic Improv

ROCKTRUCK CAFE

10333-112 Street, 421-1326
every SUN: Variety Night

YUK YUK

WEM, 481-9926
every TUES: Marc Savard-Hypnotist

CLUB NIGHTS

1001 NIGHTS

10018-105 Street, 448-1001
every FRI-SAT: R&B, Hip Hop, Retro with DJ Tech

BUMPERS

Kingsway Inn, 10812 Kingsway Ave, 479-4266
every TUE-SAT: DJ Kelly

CLUB LA

Leduc, 5705-50 Street, 986-4018
every MON, WED-SAT: DJ Stretch

DEVILS

10507-82 Avenue, 437-7489
every WED: Martini 101

every SUN: Service Industry Night

GALLERY LOUNGE

Mayfield Inn, 16615-109 Avenue, 484-0821
every THU-SAT: Dan Daniels plays sounds from the '50s, '60s, '70s

GREENHOUSE

13103 Fort Road, 472-9898
every WED: Chris Knight from Power 92

JES LIEB'S ON JASPER

Mayfair, 10815 Jasper Avenue, 414-6211
every FRI-SAT: Singles Night

KAOS

8770-179 St, 2554 WEM, 486-KAOS
no cover before 10:00pm
every FRI: High Frequency
every SAT: Total Kaos

MEGAN'S PUB

34 Avenue & 99 Street, 435-4065
every SAT: Ladies Night

ROCKS NIGHT PUB

9221-34 Avenue, 433-2599
every THU: the Bear's Sled Dog Hosts
Canadian Rocks Thursdays

NEW CITY LIRWID LOUNGE

10161-112 Street, 413-4578
every MON: DJ Chris "Weirdo" Johnson
every TUE: DJ Goodtimes
every WED: DJ Spilt Milk-Trip-hop, Hip-hop, Ambient
every THU: DJ Orange County Keith and the Ski Man
every FRI-SAT: DJ Goodtimes

RED'S

WEM, 481-6420
every SUN-FRI: Kenny K's Sounds of the Past & Present

ROCK CENTRAL STATION

Kingsway Inn, 10812 Kingsway Ave, 479-4266
every SUN: Jam Night

THE MOON

Private Member's Club, 10345-104 Street, 426-3150
every MON: DJ Big Daddy
every TUE: DJ Bryan the Big Mac
every WED: DJ Latin Lover
every THU: DJ Dark Daddy
every FRI: Down-DJ Weena Love
every SAT: Down-DJ James
every SUN: DJ Who the @!! is Alice

SHAKESPEAR'S

10805-105 Avenue, 420-1679
every FRI-SAT: House DJ

SPORTSMAN'S CLUB

5706-75 Street, 413-8333
every Night: Dancing with DJ G

WILD WEST

12912-50 Street, 476-3388
every THU: Free Dancing Lessons

SHOWBARE

109 DISCOTHEQUE

10045-109 Street, 413-3476
every SUN: Funk
every MON: DJ Rave, Open Jam
every TUE: Karaoke & Rock
every WED: Acid Jazz
every THU: Retro, Ladies Night
every FRI: Dance & Show
every SAT: Visuals All Night

PATRICK RYLEY'S Teddy Bear Party.....THIS FRIDAY

PLEASE JOIN Ralph Klien, Linda Sloan, Laurie Blakeman, Michael Phair, Peter Pocklington, Madonna Jann Arden, k.d.lang, Timex 10, Vue Mag, Len & Mix 96, CFMN, Team, See Mag, Pee Wee Herman, Nick (the Minit man), Sweetwater cafe, Boots Team, The Garage Team, A & B sound, Metro Billiards, The Gap, The Urban Cow, Cafe DeVille, The Citadel Team, Cherry Riffin, B N B Royal Karaoke, Jeannette Mac Donald, Bob & Winspear Team, Roxy Theatre, Darrin Hagen, Stockwell Day, Fred Dicker, Tom Picard, John P. GLCCE, ISCW, The Front Page, Frame of Mind, Jean McBean, New Alliance Travel, Harold Smith Travel, The Staff of the Roost, Edmonton Vocal Minority, Claude LaBine, David Garber, V.O.C.E., Jerry Archer, Delwin Vriend, Jim Schaffer, Ross (latenite club about to open), Jim & Gretchen (Late late "club" about to open), Beverly Crest, John & Brad, Hank's Rebar Team, Noon, Illusion Club, Marsha, Primetimers, The Bears, Roxy, Twigg, PFLAG, Frank Sinatra, Mary Mees, Rhoda Bee, Kevin Hendricks, Maggie, The 2nd Story, Normands Team, Dawn (old Big Rock - where are you), Drew Bowman, June & Goodfellows Team, Bistro Praha, Leah & Natasha, Binki, Dan Allaire, Ryan Beauregard, Mark Bellanger, Zak, Sally Candy, Tina Le Noir, Cameron Powell, Elia the GOGO GODDESS, NikRofelya, Ryan Cunningham, Mike Dawn, Grant #1, Chris Depatie, Dace & Ivy, Rob Gidlow, Tempest & Video Station Team, Clint Donaki, Vivian, Torsten, David Foster, Dorky A GOGO, Simon Hale, Gary Harrison, Shannon, Blue Locutus, Godiva, Jill Hierlihy, Tim Hoffpavir, Jim Hughes, Jessa, Dragos, Sylvia Johnston, Dave Jacobson, Ian Kingdom, Darren Lennartson & Stephanie, Pool Boy, Joe the "Salesman", Marilyn Wade, Marilyn Manson, The Rolling Stones, Eric Myren, Michael Nurse (leave the minister at home), Petra-Our 1st DJ, David Pimental, Shannon & Lisa Rackette, Nick Ram, Tim Robinson, Jesse Sautler, Andrew Schroder, Clay & Le Garr team, Jim Steene, Jazzberries Too team, Buddy's pub, Karen Stuart, Penny & West Edmonton Mall Team, Brent Tominuk, Luis & Julio Barrio Team, Donna Willis, Josh White, Kim Walker, Iza Man, Richard Walker, Robert & Joe, Stuart Olsen, Robert Watski, Le Chateau Team, The Edmonton City Police - on or off duty, The Edmonton Fire fighters - cause their butch, Mayor Smith, Jan Reimer, Postal Workers, The A CHANNEL TEAM, Don Joyce, Able air, ABS casino, Action Locks, AIDS NETWORK, Alley Katz, Alice Decorte, The Alberta Ballet Team, The Edmonton Syphony Team, The Edmonton Opera, The Fringe Theatre Team, AXE Music, Atlynn Productions, Dr Berquist, Northern Chaps, FM Systems, Terry & Endora, Vera & Ed, Percy, Hoppie & Bernie, Rene, Carlos, Jackie & Brian, Donna & Cafe Select Team, The Girls From Gregory System, Catalyst Theatre Team, CBC TEAM, Chad & Power 92 Team, Tom Jackson, CJSR TEAM, CKUA TEAM, ITV TEAM, The Edmonton Oilers, The Edmonton Eskimos, Drillers, Trappers, Dairy World Staff, On the Dark Side, Bottoms Up Underwear, Grandma, Graham Hicks, The Edmonton Sun Team, The Gazette Team, Finlandia, Bob McManis, Earl McGhee, Tom Hutchinson, Garneau Theatre, Burt LeBlanc, Giblby, Britannia Liquor, Jaymz Bee, Tasha & Adrianna, The ACCESS TEAM, NAIT Radio & Television Arts Course, Jason Lyttle, Joey Tomatoes Team, The Ritz Dinner Team, Time Mechanical, Canadian Linen, Labatts Brewery, Molsons, Big Rock, The Line Cleaner, Living Positive, Liz Messiah, Ted Byfield, Manifesto Cafe, Aldo Shoss, B-Code, Urban Renewal Team, Bianco Nero, Diva Fab Hair, Swizzesticks, DJ Nikki, DJ Dragan, Andy Pocket, Groove Kid, Out & Out, DJ PTO, Cory Pain, DJ Soulas, DJ Vincenzo, DJ Ryutono, DJ Lukwid, DJ Kuch, DJ Soulas, DJ LMR, DJ Topaz, Howdy & Paul, The Suncuans, Whyte Knight, Shakespears, Shaw Cable Team, Videotron Team, The Edge, SPCA, Sticky Vicky, Toebl, Brenda Boozak, The Bingo Band, XII House, 20 Twenty Models, College Copy Team, Union Theatre, Atomic Improv, Viacom Team, Voice Industy, Wajjo Drummers, Westways Guest House, Womenspace, Workshop West, Yvette, DJ Letty, DJ Balance, Elvira, Union Bank Team, (Tub Monaco Team, The Derrick Club, Blue Locutus, Slow Motion Riot, Lyons Empire, Victor Michaels Fronts, Earls Staff, The Monor Cafe Team, Second Cup, Michael Ritter, KVP Register, G.A.I.A, Pride Committee, CHER, Alan A. THE REV, LUSH, The Black Dog, Devils, Lola's Team, Synchronizer Team, Sexual Assault Centre, Edwards Neum, Edmonton, Food Bank, Groove Asylum, Groupex, Sound Connection, Sky Tacker Lites, Mayfield Investments, Pro-Ad, Tara, Outlooks Mag., Onboard Ads, T.G.P. Groceries, The Royal Bank Team, Tom Jones, Production Lighting, All Star Sound, Russell Fooks, Hotel Equipment, BML Security, Amalgamated Foods, Alta Stage Lighting, Budget Printing, Ryan Hayer, TELUS TEAM, Neither Legion, ALLEY KAT BEER, K-97 TEAM, Fat Man's Belly, & the Dairy Queen. (sorry if we forgot any!)

Bring Teddy Bear.... donated to Victim Services - City Police

Bring Cash.... for Christmas Bureau ...

Platinum \$500, Gold \$100, Silver \$50, Bronze \$25, Cool Kids - at least a loonie

Cocktails 9pm - Show 10:30

10045 - 109 Street 413 DISO

109 DISCO - THE 29 PLUS CROWD

Highlights

Listings are FREE • VUE FAX 426-2889 • Deadline 3:00 pm Friday

THU DECEMBER 11

STOP THE CHEVOT MINE BENEFIT DANCE

Bonnie Doon Hall, 9240-93 Street, 438-6410
Featuring Painting Daisies, Tacey Ride
Dale Ladouceur & the Ravens, Mike McDonald and Bill Bourne
Time: 6pm-12am; Tix: adult \$10, student \$8

FRI DECEMBER 12

31 ANNUAL COSMOPOLITAN MUSIC SOCIETY XMAS CONCERT

Cosmopolitan Music Society, 8426-103 Street, 432-9333
Featuring the CMS bands and chorus
Time: 7:30pm; Tix: adult \$10, kid \$5

BRAIN WEBB DANCE PRESENTS FIVE SENSES WITH FIVE SEASONS

John I. Haar Theatre, Grant MacEwan College, JP Campus, 497-4416
Choreography and music by Usha Gupta
Time: 8pm
Tix: adult \$18, student/senior \$12

FESTIVAL CITY WINDS WINTER CONCERT

Eva O. Howard Theatre, Victoria Composite High School, 10210-108 Avenue, 425-7401
Includes selections from Oliver and Lady of Spans and more
Time: 8pm; Tix: \$5

JAZZY CHRISTMAS '97

Yardbird Suite, 10203-86 Avenue, 432-0428
Featuring the Tommy Banks Trio and Rhonda Withnell
Time: doors at 8pm, show at 9pm
Tix: member \$9, guest \$12

SAT DECEMBER 13

31 ANNUAL COSMOPOLITAN MUSIC SOCIETY XMAS CONCERT

Cosmopolitan Music Society, 8426-103 St., 432-9333
Featuring the CMS bands and chorus
Time: 7:30pm; Tix: adult \$10, kid \$5

BRAIN WEBB DANCE PRESENTS FIVE SENSES WITH FIVE SEASONS

John I. Haar Theatre, Grant MacEwan College, JP Campus, 497-4416
Choreography and music by Usha Gupta
Time: 8pm
Tix: adult \$18, student/senior \$12

SUN DECEMBER 14

CHRISTMAS AT HOME AND ELSEWHERE

First Baptist Church, 10031-109 St., 487-1812
The First Baptist Choir sings Christmas songs from Canadian composers and all over the world
Time: 7pm; Admission is free

FACULTY OF EDUCATION YOUTH CHOIRS IN CONCERT

First Presbyterian Church, 10025-105 Street, 420-1247
Celebrating the Season featuring the U of A Handbell Ringers
Time: 2pm
Tix: \$10

SANTA'S ANONYMOUS BENEFIT CONCERT

Rose Bowl, 10117-117 Street, 483-4444
Featuring Mike McDonald, Hookahman, Invisible Jug Band, Fat Tuesday, Twang Agent Bumbo, Mole City, Chris Smith Cory Danyluk, Painting Daisies and Lester Quizau
Time: 8:30pm; Admission: please bring an unwrapped toy or cash donation

THU DECEMBER 18

THE FINE ART OF SCHMOOZY

Latitude 53, 10337-104 Street, 432-5353
Open studio, art auction and shindig shaker
Time: 7pm; Admission is free



NEW YEAR'S EVE MOLLYS REACH
COME BY THE BAR FOR TICKET INFORMATION

MOLSON MONDAY

Pints: \$3.00
"Big Wave": \$4.80

CUERVO ESPECIAL TEQUILA TUESDAY

Shots: \$2.70
Cocktails: \$3.20
Corona \$3.00
Sol: (500 ml) \$4.25

BIG ROCK WEDNESDAY

Pints: \$3.00
Jugs: \$9.00
20¢ Wings

'GET BITTEN' THURSDAY

Flanagan's
\$3.00 Pints
\$9.00 Pitchers

FRIDAY

Shooter Specials
All Day

SUNDAY

Import Draft & Bottles On Special



Mickey Finn's Taphouse

Open Daily

3 PM - 3 AM

10511 - 82 AVENUE

E-townive

It's Exactly What's Going On Out There

Listings are FREE • VUE Fax: 426-2889 • Deadline 3:00 pm Friday

ART GALLERIES — SHOWS OPENING/ EVENTS/HAPPENINGS

FAIR GALLERY

U of A, I-1 Fine Arts Bldg, 112 St., 89 Ave., 492-2081

TWO VOICES ECHO: Jeffery Kahmakootay • Kam (MFA Painting) Graduating Exhibition, Dec. 9-21. Opening reception Dec. 11, 7-10 PM.

LATITUDE 53

10137-104 St., 423-5353

THE FINE ART OF SCHMOOZY: Open Studio, Silent Art Auction and party—shindig & shaker. THU Dec. 18, 7 PM.

UNDER THE G-53: Annual Members' Exhibition, Until Jan. 3.

TELEPHONE POTTER STUDIO

9844-88 Ave., 439-9296

Annual Open House—Studio Event. Ceramic works by artists Richard and Carol Sellinger featuring their brightly painted majolica and traditional woodfired stoneware. SAT & SUN Dec. 13-14, 11 AM-5 PM.

ART GALLERIES

ALBERTA CRAFT COUNCIL GALLERY

10866-124 St., 488-6611, 488-5900

A HOLIDAY CELEBRATION OF CRAFT: Celebrating the multicultural nature of the holiday season in Canada we will be displaying craft created by over 200 craft producers. Until Jan. 3.

ANDEN GALLERY

215-6 Carnegie Dr., Campbell Business Park, St. Albert, 419-2876, http://www.compassart.ca/calbozen/anden.htm

CARTOON EXHIBITION: by Michael V. Tkaczuk. ANGEL MARINO LE: Sports figures, prints.

ARTISTICALLY SPEAKING STUDIO GALLERY & SCHOOL

Callingswood Sq., 6717-177 St., 487-6559

Paintings and sculptures by Jean Birnie.

ASH STREET GALLERY

913 Ash Street, Sherwood Park, 467-7356

WARM & COZY: Featuring works by Debbie Field

BEACHHEAD GALLERY

12310 Jasper Ave., 482-1204

Featuring birchbark paintings by Ojibwa artist Roy Thomas. Also small acrylics by David Morrisseau.

BENNY'S BAGELS

10460 Whyte Ave., 414-0007

Every month Benny's showcases a different featured artist. Jean Finch. Until Dec. 31.

BUGERARTIST

12310 Jasper Ave., 482-2854

Gallery artists, new work large and small including Jeff Burgess, Rod Charlesworth, Peter Deacon, Darlene Hay, Jerry Heine, Chris Judge, Maria Lannoo, Andre Petterson, Ernestine Tahedi, Bev Toshi and Margaret Vanderhaeghe.

CITY HALL

Kids in the Hall Bistro, 1, Sir Winston Churchill Square

Student art, paintings and collages by students who attended the art camp at the Bennett Centre last August. Until Jan. 7.

EDMONTON ART GALLERY

2 Sir Winston Churchill Sq., 422-6223

AUSON WILSON: TERRITORIES: Brain Drawings, beautiful sculptural objects by London-based artist Auson Wilso. Produced by the EAG and the Art Gallery of York University, North York. Guest Curator: Renee Baert. Until Jan. 18.

REAL OBJECTS: Contemporary Alberta artists, unifying issues of space, shape, materials and surface are revealed.

Organized by the EAG for the Alberta Foundation for the Arts Travelling Exhibition Programme. Curator: Denis Gaudier. Until Jan. 18.

CELEBRATING A LEGACY—25 YEARS OF THE ALBERTA FOUNDATION FOR THE ARTS: A survey of the range of media and practices of both well-established and little known Alberta artists. Drawn from the AFA collection by the EAG. Curator: Denis Gaudier. Until Jan. 13.

THE POOLE FOUNDATION Gift: Permanent Collection Exhibition Ongoing.

CHILDREN'S GALLERY: DEAD DUCKS? THE STORY ON STILL LIFE: Things that kids can use to explore and create still life. 'til Jan. 4.

ELECTRUM DESIGN STUDIO

12419 Stony Plain Road, 482-1402

IF I HAD WINGS: New ceramics by Arne Handley. Until Dec. 14.

GAEA'S HAVENS—KUNIKAKI SERIES: Drawings by Ron Wiggins. 'til Dec. 15.

EXTENSION CENTRE GALLERY

803-112 St., 492-3034

Ceramics by Noboru Kubo. Until Jan. 20.

THE FRONT

12312 Jasper Ave., 488-2952

THE CHRISTMAS SHOW: New paintings sculptures, ceramics and glass by Alberta Artists. Thru Dec.

THE FRINGE GALLERY

85MT, 10516 Whyte Ave., 432-0240

CORNELIA'S ART: Mixed media installation, taxidermy forms and animal skulls, by Cornelia Ostrovitz. Until Dec. 31.

GALLERY DE JONGE

27022A Hwy 16, Spruce Grove, 962-9505

Group exhibition, gallery artists.

GALERIE WOLJTEN

http://www.woljtenart.ca

Exhibit on the Internet: World Wide Web.

GIORDANO GALLERY

208 Empire Bldg, 10080 Jasper Ave., 429-5066

Open 11-5 Wed and Sat or by Appointment. Featuring works by Barbara Ballache, David Bolduc, Ruby Mah and Phil Mann. Until Dec. 12.

IMMIGRANT HOUSE GALLERY

3rd Floor, 10215-112 St., 426-4180

EDMONTON 2000: Salon extravaganza presented by F.O.P. Collective. 'til Dec. 31.

INK GALLERY

10624-82 Ave., 433-6834

THE COLORS OF SUMMER: Watercolors by gallery artists. Until Dec. 18.

INDIAN PRINT AND PAPERWORKS

12214 Jasper Ave., 422-2208

4TH ANNUAL X'MAS CARDS SHOW: Handmade cards. Until X'mas.

MANITOBA GALLERY

7510-82 Ave., 944-9497

New works by Wei T. Wong, Meta Ranger, Willie Wong and Helena Ball.

MANITOBA GALLERY II

9939-170 St., 413-8362

Christmas show of photographs by The Group of Seven.

MANITOBA—CULTURE CENTRE

10043-102 St., 423-7901

FULL EXPOSURE: New drawings, Kris van Eyk and E. Ross Bradley. Until Jan. 4, 1998.

MEHREZ GALLERY

U of A Hospital, 8440-112 St., 492-4211

WOODWORKS—TEN EDMONTON SCULPTORS: Sculptures in wood by Ted Truss, Robert Iverson, Bruce Ohneck, Daniel Hozdzenski, Tommie Galle, Darrell Colyer, Larry Androff, Michael Mott, Eiser Hall, and Sandra Bromley. 'til Dec. 31.

NIHONJIMA HARTLEY CENTRE

16940-87 Ave., 484-8811, ext 6475

30 SOMETHING: Work by Barhead Art Club. Until Jan. 7.

AVIATION ART: by Robert Bailey, RECENT PHOTOGRAPHS: Photos by Ken Bentley. Until Jan. 12.

OPPORTSHAUSER

5411-51 St, Stony Plain, 963-2777

Steve Plets, Judy Hannon, Paintings: Tim & Cheryl Jensen, Bisset, Tannis Bisset, Stained Glass: Devonian Botanic Gardens Crafters Association, Mixed Media. 'til Dec. 23.

ORIGINAL ART GALLERY

22 Sir Winston Churchill Ave., St. Albert, 460-4324

WINTER IN ALBERTA: All Member show, St. Albert Painters' Guild. Until Jan. 3.

Gallery Restaurant: Simon Wong, watercolor on rice paper. 'til Jan. 4.

PLANET INC. CAFE

201, 10442-82 Ave., 423-9730, http://www.compassart.ca/calbozena

Art Exhibition, works by Michael V. Tkaczuk.

PROFILES GALLERY

110 Grandin Park Plaza, 22 Sir Winston Churchill Ave., St. Albert, 460-4310

PRESENCE: St. Albert Visual Arts Council Exhibition. Until Dec. 20.

PROFILES YOUTH GALLERY

Arden Theatre, St. Albert Place, 3 St. Anne St., St. Albert

Pre-schoolers exhibit.

BOWLES AND COMPANY LTD.

Coopers & Lybrand Tower, 18 Fl., 10130-103 St., 426-4055

7TH ANNUAL CANADIAN GLASS SHOW: Featuring the artworks of 68 Canadian glass artists. Until Dec. 23.

Coopers & Lybrand Tower, Mezz. Level, 10130-103 St., 426-4055

Works by Greg Swainston, Angela Grooteelaar and Elaine Tweedy, and Fiona Portwood. A wide selection of artwork for corporate gifts.

Oxford Tower, 10235-101 St

Acrylics by John Freeman.

Westin Hotel, The Pradera, 10135-100 St

Pastel paintings by Audrey Plannmuller.

SCOTT GALLERY

10411-124 St., 488-3619

THE CHRISTMAS SHOW: Featuring stone sculptures by Cathryn Jenkins, and paintings by Katherine Merillas, Edn works by Doris Zaharichuk, Vladimir Horik, Barbara Akins and W.J. Phillips. 'til Dec. 20.

SHAW POINT GALLERY

10137-104, back of Latitude 53, 423-1492

FILTERING EYE: LIQUID DUSTIONS: SCREENS, LINES AND DOTS: New work by David Armstrong. Until Jan. 3.

SOCIETE FRANCOPHONE DU CENTRE DES VISUELS DE L'ALBERTA

20, 8527, rue Marie-Anne-Gaboury (91 St.), 461-3627

Francophone artists and artisans works.

SPECIAL-T-GALLERY

284 Saddleback Rd., 437-1192

MIXED PALETTE: Group exhibition, sale of works by members of the Federation of Canadian Artists, Edmonton.

STRATHCONA PLACE ART GALLERY

10831 University Ave., 433-5807

LANDSCAPES OF THE MIND: A new and unusual exhibit by Colin Spencer.

Landscapes paintings, drawings, and collages a three dimensional will be developed for the viewer to observe.

TAP NICKERD GALLERY

139-15333 Castle Downs Rd., Lake Beaumaris, 413-0147

Featuring Song Birds by Gina Christoffersen and water colors by Jim Sha.

VANDERLIFE

10344-134 St., 452-0286

Group show of gallery artists: paintings by David Alexander, Gregory Hardy, Colette Nilsen, Jonathan Forrest, Greg Edmonson, David Cantine; sculpture by Isla Burns and Simon Black. Until Dec. 31.

WEST END

12308 Jasper Ave., 488-4892

Showcase an exhibition of new works by gallery artists, featuring Kathleen Hanrahan.

CRAFT SHOWS

UCWEL ARTS AND CRAFTS MUSEUM

10825-97 St. St. Joseph's Cathedral.

Focus on the Ukrainian Settlement in Western Canada. Ukrainian Catholic women's League of Canada.

DANCE

ALBERTA BALLET

Jubilee Auditorium, 451-8000

Until Dec. 14: The Nutcracker, accompanied by the Edmonton Symphony Orchestra, local choirs and children from local area dance schools.

BRIAN WEBB DANCE

John & Mary Theatre, Jasper Place Campus, G.M.C.C., 10045-155 St., 497-4416

FRI 12-SAT 13: Five Senses With Five Seasons, Usha Gupta

DISPLAYS/MUSEUMS

ALBERTA AVIATION MUSEUM

11410 Kingsway Ave., 453-1078

Aircraft on display and under restoration. Civil and military aviation history.

ALBERTA RAILWAY MUSEUM

24215-34 St., 472-6229

Housed in the railway station built at St. Albert in 1909.

HUGE FREE SPECIAL COLLECTIONS LIBRARY

87 Rutherford South, U of A, 492-7928

SHE WIELDS A PEN: An exhibition of women's literary history. Features books covering four centuries. Thru Dec.

CANADA'S AVIATION HALL OF FAME

Reynolds Alberta Museum, Hwy 13, 361-1351

A tribute to the people who pioneered and advanced aviation in Canada. 60's a Go-Go. Until Jan. 18.

EDMONTON PUBLIC SCHOOLS ARCHIVES & MUSEUM

McKay Ave. Sch., 10425-99 Ave., 422-1970

THE EDMONTON SCHOOLBOYS BAND

EDMONTON SPACE & SCIENCE CENTRE

9929-69 Ave., 438-8922

Visit Edmonton's smallest micro brewery, see how Alley Kats' award winning craft beers are brewed, taste Alley Kats' all natural beer. THU-FRI, 2-4 pm or call for a guided tour.

CITY HALL

462-4491

SUN 21: A Christmas Candle Lighting, singing of Judy Armstrong, Life Enrichment Centre presentation

MARVEL COLLEGE

10018-106 St., 424-1171

SAT 13: Free Haurat, bring a donation for the Food Bank, Santa Anonymous, The Christmas Bureau. Until Dec. 14.

LEGISLATIVE ASSEMBLY INTERPRETIVE CENTRE

N. Legislature Grounds, pdwy., 422-3982

Visit Alberta's premier architectural attraction.

MUSSE HERITAGE MUSEUM

St. Albert Place, 5 St. Anne St., St. Albert, 459-1528

KLONDIKE GOLD: Pictures, artifacts, models and maps from the Dawson City Museum and Historical Society. 'til Jan. 15.

MUTANT CRYSTALLOID

9626-96A St., 496-8755

THE NIGHT BEFORE CHRISTMAS: Ten different varieties of poinsettias. Crafts and activities for children each weekend, live entertainment. Until Jan. 4.

OLD STRATHCONA MODEL AND TOY MUSEUM

8603-104 St., 433-4512, http://www.connect.ca/~bobell/index.htm

Paper replicas of historic sites, ships, planes, trains, birds. Only open 'til Dec. 31.

PROVINCIAL MUSEUM OF ALBERTA

12845-102 Ave., 453-9131

every SAT & SUN: Science Circle, for young families. Weekends, 1-4 PM.

every SAT: (Starting Dec. 6) Aboriginal videos

SYNCRUDE CANADA ABORIGINAL PEOPLES GALLERY: Now open. Spans 11,000 years and 500 generations, people of the past and present, recordings, film, lights, artifacts and more.

REYNOLDS-ALBERTA MUSEUM

Wesakwin, Highway 13, 1-800-661-4726

Bicycles, cars, farm equipment... reflections of Alberta's transportation history. Open daily.

HIGH FLYERS: Women in Aviation. 'til Jan. 4.

RYTHMIFORD HOUSE

11153 Saskatchewan Dr., 427-3995

Costumed interpreters recreate daily household activities. Open TUE-SUN.

The Twelve Days of Christmas special events. Every SAT & SUN Until Dec. 21. noon-4 PM.

SHAW CONVENTION CENTRE

Pdwy Level, 9797 Jasper Ave., 424-3300

Canadian Country Music Hall of Honor: Who's who in the Canadian country music scene.

THE TELEPHONE HISTORICAL CENTRE

10437-83 Ave., 441-2077

Set in the original Old Strathcona Telephone Exchange Building (1912).

THE URBANIAN CULTURAL HERITAGE VILLAGE

25 Spruce E. of Edmonton on Hwy 16, 662-3640

SUN 14: Country Winter Celebration

13315 Buena Vista Rd., 496-6911

Combining the fun of nursery rhymes with the beauty of animals. 9:30AM-6PM

LECTURES/MEETINGS

BOYS & GIRLS CLUBS

Six Locations, 483-5599

weekly: Parent Talk-Talking to Your Children

CASTLEDOWNS LIBRARY

15333 Castledowns Road, 496-18

JOHNNY & POKE VARIETY HOUR
Varscona Theatre, 10329-83 Ave., 433-3399
Johnny Reno welcomes Poldi Schvadtar back from London. Every SAT Night @ 11PM.
A KETCHMAS KAROL
Varscona Theatre, 10329-83 Ave., 433-9859
Presented by Generic Theatre. It's Seasonal Therapy. Already! Our hero heads off into the insanity of Christmas Eve—will he embrace the Christmas Spirit, or just get plastered? Until Dec. 20.

NO WALK IN THE PARK
The Catalyst, 8529-103 St., 988-4810
By Trevor Schmidt. Peep into the lives of some unstable Gen-X types searching for suburban bliss but landing in a heap of urban decay. Pansy (a shampoo girl) and Wyatt (a junk-artists) share an apartment. And an unimpressive list of social contacts that weave the roomies into a web of deceit and manipulation that could ruin their friendship forever. What are they going to do with their lives? When do they decide that enough is enough? Who do you choose and who do you lose? 'til Dec. 14; special Midnight performance Fri, Dec. 12.

SALTY TOWERS
Celebration Dinner Theatre, Neighborhood Inn, 13103 Fort Rd., 448-9339
Don't just tempt your taste buds with this delectable array of hotel happenings gone hysterically haywire, pull up a chair and dig in, to "Salty Towers"... The marvellous musical mania that will have you "checking in" for more. Until Jan. 11.

SIR WALTER RALEIGH
TYRITH PRISTY HARD
Varscona Theatre, 10329-83 Ave., 459-3960
Edmonton's newest theatre company Dead English Theatre presented the premiere of Rosemary Rowe's most unique comedy ever. Two men are sent to guard Raleigh during his last hour in the tower. Dec. 26-28.

SPRINGBOARDS NEW PLAY FESTIVAL
3rd Space Cabaret, 11516-103 Ave., 477-5955
Popular readings of new works by intermediate and established playwrights and a produced play on tour from Toronto, and a re-work of a piece by Marty Chan. Guest Productions:
MOM, DAD, I'M LIVING WITH A WHITE GIRL
By Marty Chan. Presented by Theatre Network, directed by Ben Henderson. A young man, haunted by nightmares before he tells his parents about his new "roommate". He discovers no nightmare can compare to the real-life reactions of his strict parents. SAT, Dec. 13.
Almost Ready For Prime Time:
THE CAROUSEL RIDE
By Katherine Koller, FRI, Dec. 12
BRAND
By Trevor Schmidt, FRI, Dec. 12
HOMESICK
By Coni Massing, FRI, Dec. 12
THE HOMEMAKING CLAM
By Steve Owad, THU, Dec. 11
The Juicy Bits:
THE CAROUSEL RIDE
By Katherine Koller, FRI, Dec. 12
BRAND
By Trevor Schmidt, FRI, Dec. 12
HOMESICK
By Coni Massing, FRI, Dec. 12

THEATRESPORTS
10329-83 Ave., 448-0695
Rapid Fire Theatre, TheatreSports' wacky cast will delight, enthrall and tickle all assembled, with an all improvised comedy show, every FRI's @ 11 PM.
THE 2 JAMES OF CHRISTMAS
The John Walter Museum. Across from Kinsmen Centre, River Valley, 497-4395
A musical cabaret at the romantic, candlelit John Walter Museum with Bridget Ryan and Damien Adkins. Starting 9:30 PM. All proceeds go to benefit Leave it to Jane Theatre. Dec. 12-15

YUK YUK'S
Bourbon Street, WEM, 481-9857
Variety Night every Wed.
VARIETY
CITY HALL
1, Sir Winston Churchill Square
Thru to THU 18: Holiday Magic - performances, 496-8251
GOLD BAR PARK
496-2966
SAT 13: Winter Wonderland walk, 2-4 PM.
MAWRELAH PARK
496-7275
SUN 21: Free Cross Country Ski Day, 1-4 PM
JASPER PLACE LIBRARY
9010-156 Street, 496-1810
THU 11: Films for the Retired & Semi-Retired, 2 PM.
LESSARD LIBRARY
6104-172 Street, 496-1871
every WED: Chess Night all ages, 7 PM
every TUE: Magic, The Gathering, all ages, 7 PM
MULTICULTURAL HERITAGE CENTRE
Stony Plain, 963-2777
"The Twelve Days of Christmas" Series of Christmas Brunch Buffets, until Dec. 21.
THE NODE ROOM
Circle Square Plaza, 118 Ave St. Albert Trail, 413-9982
Internet access. Multiplayer computer gaming.
RED'S
WEM, 481-6420
every THU: Ladies Night
every FRI: Atomic Improv
RUNDLE PARK
496-2966
SAT 13, SUN 14: Skipping

SIDETRACK CAFE
10333-112 Street, 421-1326
every SUN: Variety Night
VICTORIA GOLF COURSE
496-2966
TUES & THUS (Dec. 11) Cross-Country Ski Lessons, Beginner II
TUES & THUS (Dec. 11, 16, 18) Cross-country Ski Lessons, Skating Technique
SAT 13, SAT 20: Drop In Cross-Country Ski Lessons
SAT 13-SUN 14: Drop In Cross-Country Ski Lessons, Beginner II
MONS & WEDS (Dec. 15, 17) Cross-Country Ski Lessons, Beginner I
VICTORIA PARK OVAL
River Rd., 116 Street, 493-000, EXT. 4223
496-7275
Open for the skating season
WHITEMUD NATURE RESERVE
496-2966
SAT 21: Winter Wonderland Walk, 2-4 PM

WORKSHOPS
ARTISTICALLY SPEAKING STUDIO GALLERY & SCHOOL
Callington Sq, 617-177 St., 487-6559
Art classes available.
ARTISTS' ASSOCIATION
990-1070
SUN 14: Rhythm & Rapport Workshop, 1:30-3:30PM. To assist anyone who needs to establish rapport with an audience. Rhythm drills.
ASH STREET GALLERY
913 Ash Street, Sherwood Park, 998-3091, 449-0570
Beginner water color class, call for info.
HEAD CLOSET
8118-103 St., 432-7547
every Mon-Wed evening until Christmas. Jewellery making workshops.
CITADEL THEATRE SCHOOL
9828-101A Ave., 426-4811
Classes offered for kids and adults, winter semester Jan. 5-Mar. 26, 1998.
GRANT MAKEMAN COMMUNITY COLLEGE
Jasper Place Campus, 497-4321
TUE Jan 27: Fine Art Program: Information session, tour, 7 PM.
INYLWIDE LIBRARY
8310-88 Avenue, *496-1808
every second FRI FreeNet Instruction
INMIGO
12214 Jasper Ave., 452-2208
THU 11: Make a Portfolio, 7-9 PM.
SAT 13: Bookbinding: Hardcover, 10-3 PM
THU 18: Nooking, 7-9 PM
SAT 20-SUN 21: Print on Handmade Paper

THE MARKETPLACE ART SCHOOL
Westmount Shopping Centre, 474-9351
Individual and group classes in pencil, pen & ink, acrylic, oil, water color, clay and wood. Call Lora or drop by.
MERRYWOOD DANCE & CREATIVE ARTS ACADEMY
Romanian Hall, N. Edmonton, 456-8070
A new dance and arts school. Krafing for Kids, classes run while the adult classes run
HORDRAFT ART & DRAFTING
10660-105 St., 246-7820
SAT 13: Frank Haddock
SNAP PRINT GALLERY
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SNAP offers courses in a variety of Printmaking techniques: Photo-etching, Lithography, Silkscreen, Relief.

SUBVERT
The Subversive Textile Association of Artists, *413-4284
Workshops on the 1st SUN each month
*Pre-register @ 413-4284
TOASTMASTERS
Heritage Rm, Main Fl., City Hall, 1, Sir Winston Churchill Sq., contact Carla 478-3384.
every WED: you're invited to a meeting (free), upward bound toastmasters, (to improve your listening, thinking, speaking skills), 7:30 PM.

KIDS STUFF
CALDER LIBRARY
12522-132 Avenue, 496-7090
SAT 13: Holly Candles, 2 PM
SAT 20: Christmas Cheer, 2 PM
CAPILANO LIBRARY
Capilano Mall, 98 Avenue & 50 St., 496-1802
every TUE: Hey Diddle Diddle, 2 yrs +
pre-register
every THU: Pre-School Storytime, 3-5 yrs.
*pre-register
SAT 13: Deck the Halls! 2 PM
CASTLEDOWNS LIBRARY
15333 Castledowns Road, 496-1804
SAT 13: Christmas Craft, 2 PM
CHAPTERS
West Side, 3227 Calgary Trail S., 436-9694
Daily story times in the "My Books" children's section, 10:45 AM, Weekends 2:30 PM.

EDMONTON ART GALLERY
2 Sir Winston Churchill Square, 422-6223
CHILDREN'S GALLERY: DEAD DUCKS? THE STORY ON STILL LIFE. Come make a work of art. Until Jan. 4
every SUN in Dec. 2-4 PM, FREE with regular admission.
SUN 14: Learn how to create holiday candles to warm the darkest winter nights
SUN 21: Sculpt strange and wonderful ornaments for your tree.

FORT EDMONTON PARK
496-8787
FRI 12-TUE 23: Christmas Reflections
SAT 21: Christmas Traditions
HIGHLANDS LIBRARY
6710-118 Avenue, *496-1806
SAT 13: Christmas Craft Day, 10:30 AM
INYLWIDE LIBRARY
8310-88 Avenue, *496-1808
every TUE: Time for Two's, 10:15 AM, 2 yrs, *pre-register
JASPER PLACE LIBRARY
9010-156 Street, 496-1810
every THU: (Jan. 7-Feb 5) Pre-school storytime, 3-4-5 yrs. *pre-register
SAT 13: Winter Wonderland. Winter Craft, 2 PM
JOHN JANZEN NATURE CENTRE
Fort Edmonton Park, Fox Dr., Whitemud Dr., 496-2939
SUN 14: Christmas Puppet Show: A Christmas Carol The Naturalist's Version, 1 PM.
JOHN WALTER MUSEUM
Kinsmen Park, 9100 Walderdale Hill, 496-4852
THU 11-SAT 13: Candlelight Christmas
THU 18-SAT 20
FRI 26-SUN 28
SUN 30: Christmas Gifts, 1-4 PM.
LESSARD LIBRARY
6104-172 Street, 496-1871
SAT 13: Puppet Show
LONDONDERRY LIBRARY
Londonderry Mall, 496-1814
every TUES & WEDS: (Jan 13-Feb 11) Drop-in Pre-School Storytime, SAT 20: Winter Puppet Show, 2 PM
MILL WOODS LIBRARY
Mill Woods Town Centre, 2331-66 St., 496-1818
SAT 20: Hol Hol Hol, 2-3 PM *pre-register
PEONY MICKE LIBRARY (ABBOTSFIELD)
Abbotsfield Shoppers Mall, 3210-118 Ave., 496-7833
Full library service has started.
SOUTHGATE LIBRARY
Southgate Shopping Centre, 496-1822
FRI 12: Holiday Puppet Show
SPRUCEWOOD LIBRARY
11555-95 Street, *496-7099
every THU: (Until Dec. 18): Storytime: 3-5 yrs, *Pre-register
SAT 13: Children's Woodworking Craft, 2 PM, *Pre-register
SAT 20: A Winter Puppet Show, 2 PM, *Pre-register

STANLEY & MELBA LIBRARY
7 Sir Winston Churchill Square, Library Theatre, *496-7000
every MON: Drop-in Film Program, 10:30 AM, 3-5 yrs.
STRATHCONA LIBRARY
8331-104 Street, *496-1828
TUE 16: Christmas Puppet Play, 10:30 AM
VALLEY ZOO
13315 Buena Vista Rd., 496-6911
SUN 14: Outdoor Fun with Santa, 1-4 PM.
VED 17: Christmas Party with the Animals, 3-5 yrs & adult
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TIX ON THE SQUARE
- COMMUNITY ARTS INFORMATION CENTRE OFFERING ALL TICKETMASTER SERVICES, ARTS INFORMATION AND RUSH (HALF PRICE) TICKETS AS AVAILABLE IN THE HEART OF THE NEW ARTS DISTRICT IN CHANCERY HALL, MAIN FLOOR.
Open daily except Sundays.
Hours: Tue-Thu 9:30 a.m.-6:00 p.m.; Mon & Sat 9:30 a.m.-2 p.m.
INFO: 420-1757/988-387

HOT LINE RUSH...
at TIX on the Square
Save 50% on the following tickets. Available on the day of the performance only.
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Rapid Fire Theatre, TheatreSports' wacky cast will delight, enthrall and tickle all assembled, with an all improvised comedy show, every FRI's @ 11 PM.
THE 2 JAMES OF CHRISTMAS
The John Walter Museum. Across from Kinsmen Centre, River Valley, 497-4395
A musical cabaret at the romantic, candlelit John Walter Museum with Bridget Ryan and Damien Adkins. Starting 9:30 PM. All proceeds go to benefit Leave it to Jane Theatre. Dec. 12-15

YUK YUK'S
Bourbon Street, WEM, 481-9857
Variety Night every Wed.
VARIETY
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MULTICULTURAL HERITAGE CENTRE
Stony Plain, 963-2777
"The Twelve Days of Christmas" Series of Christmas Brunch Buffets, until Dec. 21.
THE NODE ROOM
Circle Square Plaza, 118 Ave St. Albert Trail, 413-9982
Internet access. Multiplayer computer gaming.
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ENGINEERING ASSISTANT POSITION AT CJSR

CJSR is looking for an Engineering Assistant. If you are an electrical engineering student, or you have technical knowledge, please send your resumé to: CJSR, Room 009, SUB, U of A, Edmonton, Alberta, T6G 2J7 or fax 492-3121 Attention Zela.

CJSR pays a monthly honorarium of \$150.00 for the position. The position will start 2 January, 1998. Application deadline is December 15, 1997. For more information, please call Sheldon Radford at 492-5244.

CJSR FM88
edmonton's independent

Restaurants

Fax your FREE listing to 426-2889

MEAN LEGEND

- Breakfast
 - Brunch
 - Lunch
 - Late Night Kitchen
 - Patio
 - Take-out
 - Free Parking
 - Up to \$10 per*
 - \$20 & under*
 - \$30 & under*
 - Over \$30*
- *Price per person, bev. & tip included

ALTERNATIVE

Cafe Mosaics (10844 Whyte Ave., 433-9702) A wide variety of homemade, healthy meals, featuring many selections for vegetarians. Live music on Wednesdays. ☺ ☺ ☺ ☺ ☺
Oly Onion's (10332 Whyte Ave., 434-0155) Offering the only 'original' Poutine with real ingredients. And the largest and best onion cake on the Ave. ☺ ☺ ☺ ☺ ☺
Route 99 Diner (8820-99 St., 432-0968) 50s diner with an abundance of memorabilia, a jukebox playing 50s music and a great variety of food. ☺ ☺ ☺ ☺ ☺

BAKERY

Mr. Samosa (9630-142 St., 451-5687) A creative East Indian snack shop known for their samosas. The bakery specializes in chevro, ghanthia, samosas, nan, and rotte. Indian sweet maker.
Skopek's Bake Shop (10115-104 St., 425-9706) High on taste, high on life. Come ganache your teeth. Open 8 am-5 pm Mon-Fri.

BISTRO

Bistro Praha (10168-100A St., 424-4218) The first European cafe since 1977 and still the only one. ☺ ☺ ☺ ☺ ☺
Cafe Select (10018-106 St., 423-0419) Offering lunch, dinner and late night dining in a relaxed atmosphere for over 12 years. Drop in for martinis, cocktails or a glass of wine. ☺ ☺ ☺ ☺ ☺ after 6 p.m.
Lola's Restaurant and Martini Bar (8230-165 St., 436-4793) Sensual dining experience, lunch, brunch, dinner, dare to have it all. ☺ ☺ ☺ ☺ ☺ after 6 p.m.
Manor Cafe (10109-125 St., 482-7577) Remarkable location, flavor and service. Great prices on dishes from around the world. ☺ ☺ ☺ ☺ ☺
Matess Urban Bistro (8223-104 St., 431-0179) The first European Bistro since 1996 and still the only one. Radeagat on tap. ☺ ☺ ☺ ☺ ☺
Sweetwater Cafe (12427-102 Ave., 488-1959) In the heart of Old Glenora, delicious health conscious dishes made fresh. Experience the ultimate brunch Saturday and Sunday, or drop by in the evening for wine and one of our specialty pastas. ☺ ☺ ☺ ☺ ☺

CAFES

Aroma Borealis (Coopers & Lybrand

Building, 211, 10130-103 St., 944-9693) Designer sandwiches, Latte, Cappuccino, Great Coffee, Fabulous Desserts by Skopek's Bake Shop. ☺ ☺ ☺ ☺ ☺
Benny's Bagels Cafe On Whyte (10460-82 Ave., 414-0007) Come for breakfast, lunch or for a latte or cappuccino after a night out. We have catering and a deli available. Check out our patio for the hot summer days. ☺ ☺ ☺ ☺ ☺
Benny's Bagels Cafe On Whyte (8409-112 St., 413-4879) Specialty coffees, full menu, catering, desserts, daily specials. ☺ ☺ ☺ ☺ ☺
Breadstick Cafe (10159 Whyte Ave., 448-5998) Open 24 hrs, licenced. Catering. ☺ ☺ ☺ ☺ ☺
Juliano's Restaurant and Cappuccino Bar (11121-156 St., 451-1117) Wonderful food and prices. Mama would love! Fast lunches served Trattoria style with a more relaxed dinner atmosphere. A great place to meet friends! ☺ ☺ ☺ ☺ ☺

Katmandu Coffee Cafe (201-10 McKenney Ave., St. Albert, 419-3550) A European coffee bar atmosphere in St. Albert. The friendly neighbourhood ambience creates a pleasant inviting environment that encourages conversation... similar to the early coffee houses of Europe, updated to reflect the contemporary lifestyle of today's coffee and jazz connoisseur. Gourmet Coffees, Specialty Coffees (both hot and cold), Espresso and light lunch food items. ☺ ☺ ☺ ☺ ☺ up to \$10
Muddy Waters Cappuccino Bar (8211-111 St., 433-4390) Great eats and drinks in a comfortable atmosphere. Daily liquor and food specials. Catering. ☺ ☺ ☺ ☺ ☺
Remedy (8631-109 St., 433-3096) Fresh food, cheap beer, warm and funky atmosphere, two pool tables. Lots of free parking beside The Movie Studio. Sun-Thru 8-11 p.m.; Fri-Sat 9-2 p.m.
Sugar Bowl (10922-88 Avenue, 433-8369) The esoteric & eclectic cafe. Full espresso bar, fresh baking daily, daily hot specials, live entertainment

CAJON

Cajon House (7 St. Anne St., St. Albert, 460-8772) Worth the drive to sample some of the best lambanys and gumbo in the province. ☺ ☺ ☺ ☺ ☺
Da De O (10548-82 Ave., 433-0930) Funky-style restaurant in an old-style diner on Whyte Ave. ☺ ☺ ☺ ☺ ☺
Louisiana Purchase (10320-111 St., 420-6779) Higher-end style of cooking from the Bayou and great atmosphere. ☺ ☺ ☺ ☺ ☺ Fri/Sat ☺ ☺ ☺ ☺ ☺

CANADIAN

Applebee's (13006-50 St., 475-6100 and 10338-109 St., 421-1600) Their diverse, 60-item menu is revised twice a year and is tailored to local tastes and appeals to all ages. ☺ ☺ ☺ ☺ ☺ Fri/Sat ☺ ☺ ☺ ☺ ☺
Barb and Ernie's (9906-72 Ave., 433-3242) One of the best music and pop operations in the city. ☺ ☺ ☺ ☺ ☺ all day ☺ ☺ ☺ ☺ ☺
Billiards Club (2-Fr., 10505-82 Ave., 432-0335) Rack 'em up and chow down, with heaps of burgers and mugs of ale. ☺ ☺ ☺ ☺ ☺

Hot Deals

Looking for a great pizza or pasta deal? Check out Joey Tomatoes Monday nights where every pizza and pasta dish on the menu is just \$6.99. Ingredients are fresh, everything's made right on the premises and the portions are huge. From regular favorites like spaghetti and meatballs to creative gourmet combinations such as Tuscan-grilled vegetable pizza, you can be assured it will be delicious.

Bones (10220-103 St., 421-4747) Known as the place for ribs—on the Boardwalk. ☺ ☺ ☺ ☺ ☺
David's (8407 Argyll Road, 468-1167) Specializing in Alberta beef dishes on the south side of town. ☺ ☺ ☺ ☺ ☺
The Garage Burger Bar and Grill (10242-106 St., 423-5014) The best homemade burgers with daily lunch specials at student-friendly prices. ☺ ☺ ☺ ☺ ☺
The Grinder (10957-124 St., 453-1709) For a casual fine dining experience, we've been one of Edmonton's favorite restaurants for over 17 years. ☺ ☺ ☺ ☺ ☺
Keegan's (8709-109 St., 439-8034) At any hour, the last word in Huevos Rancheros. ☺ ☺ ☺ ☺ ☺ 24 hours ☺ ☺ ☺ ☺ ☺
Larry's Cafe (6, 10015-82 Ave., 414-6040) Best breakfasts and lunches on the South side. Cheap prices! ☺ ☺ ☺ ☺ ☺ M-F 8 a.m., SAT 9 a.m. ☺ ☺ ☺ ☺ ☺
The Raven (10338-104 St., 431-1193) Public House—Wood Fired Food) an eclectic selection of "wood fired food" featuring Old Strathcona's best steaks and oven roasted chicken. Don't forget to try our "new" baked oysters. See you soon! ☺ ☺ ☺ ☺ ☺
Rosie's Bar and Grill (10604-101 St., 423-3499) Nothing fancy, but sensible home cooking without the frills. ☺ ☺ ☺ ☺ ☺
Turtle Creek Cafe (8404-109 St., 433-4202) Continental-style bistro with good variety of dishes—pizza, stir-fries, pasta and more. ☺ ☺ ☺ ☺ ☺ Fri/Sat ☺ ☺ ☺ ☺ ☺
Von's Steak and Fish House (10309-81 Ave., 439-0041) Alberta beef at its best and great seafood, too. ☺ ☺ ☺ ☺ ☺
Zac's Place Cafe and Pub (Fr., 9855-76 Ave., 439-1901) Featuring their famous ultimate burger and all-day Breakfasts. ☺ ☺ ☺ ☺ ☺ all day ☺ ☺ ☺ ☺ ☺

CHINESE

Man's Cafe (12520-118 Ave., 452-3672) A super stop for a variety of tasty treats. Make sure to try the Oriental stir-fry. ☺ ☺ ☺ ☺ ☺ Fri/Sat ☺ ☺ ☺ ☺ ☺

CONTINENTAL

High Level Diner (10912-88 Ave., 433-0993) Wholesome and health-conscious—known for their tasty hummus and veggie burgers. ☺ ☺ ☺ ☺ ☺ M-F 8 a.m., Sat/Sun 9 a.m. ☺ ☺ ☺ ☺ ☺
Nellie's Tea Shoppe (12606-118 Ave.,

452-9429) Edmonton's best kept secret on the north side. Featuring all home-made meals. Specializing in traditional English high tea and gourmet evening meals. ☺ ☺ ☺ ☺ ☺
Unheard Restaurant (9602-82 Ave., 432-0480) Over 17 years of operating a fine dining establishment in a newly renovated building. ☺ ☺ ☺ ☺ ☺

EAST INDIAN

New Asian Village (10143 Saskatchewan Dr., 433-3804) Cooking at its best from the subcontinent with a great panoramic river valley view. ☺ ☺ ☺ ☺ ☺ Fri/Sat ☺ ☺ ☺ ☺ ☺

EUROPEAN

Continental Treat (105660-82 Ave., 433-7432) Enjoy excellent European cuisine in an elegant yet comfortable atmosphere. ☺ ☺ ☺ ☺ ☺

FRENCH

Claude's On the River (9797 Jasper Ave., 429-2900) A legend in French cuisine. ☺ ☺ ☺ ☺ ☺
The Crêperie (10220-103 St., 420-6656) Romantic ambience highlights the best crepes in town. ☺ ☺ ☺ ☺ ☺ Dinner \$\$\$ ☺ ☺ ☺ ☺ ☺
Normand's (11639A-Jasper Ave., 482-2600) Fine cooking with a good selection of wild game—Sunday brunch is excellent. ☺ ☺ ☺ ☺ ☺
Plantiers Restaurant (10807-106 Ave., 990-1992) Elegantly informal. French Cuisine from Provence. Sunday Brunch and lovely lunches/romantic dinners. B Sun ☺ ☺ ☺ ☺ ☺

GERMAN

Gasthaus (Strathcona, 8120-101 St., 433-5307) Hearty restaurant with all the classic dishes. ☺ ☺ ☺ ☺ ☺

GREEK

John's Cafe on 124 Street (10337-124 Street, 482-1271) Great breakfast and lunch during the day and Greek cuisine from 5:00 p.m. ☺ ☺ ☺ ☺ ☺
Syraki Greek Island Restaurant (16313-11 Ave., 484-2473) Visit the Greek Islands in Edmonton. ☺ ☺ ☺ ☺ ☺
Yannis Taverna Restaurant (10444-82 Ave., 433-6768) Authentic Greek food, belly dancing, and the friendly staff create a fun and boisterous atmosphere that will entertain young and old. ☺ ☺ ☺ ☺ ☺ Fri-Sat ☺ ☺ ☺ ☺ ☺

ITALIAN

Bruno's Italian Restaurant (9914-89 Ave., 433-8161) Quiet, family-style dining and one of Edmonton's best-kept secrets. ☺ ☺ ☺ ☺ ☺
Chianti (10501-82 Ave., 439-9829) Boticelli paintings serve as a nice backdrop in establishment offering the best pasta selections in town. ☺ ☺ ☺ ☺ ☺ Fri/Sat ☺ ☺ ☺ ☺ ☺
Fine Cantina Italiana (8715-109 St., 439-8466) Good, affordable, restaurant off campus. ☺ ☺ ☺ ☺ ☺
Frank's Place - Pacific Fish (10020-101A Ave., 422-0282) Situated 1/2 a block from Churchill Square and Summer Festival fun!! An extensive Italian and seafood menu, friendly efficient service, and generous portions ensure a return visit. ☺ ☺ ☺ ☺ ☺ Mon-Fri, Dinner—\$ Mon-Sat, ☺ ☺ ☺ ☺ ☺
Giovanni's Restaurant (10130-107 St., 426-2021) Delicious cuisine for a song—featuring Giovanni himself when he breaks into a heart-stopping aria. ☺ ☺ ☺ ☺ ☺ Mon-Fri, dinner weekends, ☺ ☺ ☺ ☺ ☺
Il Portico (10012-107 St., 424-0707) Trendy downtown restaurant with fresh, imaginative dishes. ☺ ☺ ☺ ☺ ☺ Mon-Fri, ☺ ☺ ☺ ☺ ☺
La Casa Ticino (8327-112 St., 432-7275) Located in a great old house just north of College Plaza, offers fine dishes. ☺ ☺ ☺ ☺ ☺
Rigoleto's Cafe (10044-101A Ave., 429-0701) Italian/continental spot on Rice Howard Way—lunch, dinner or late snacks. ☺ ☺ ☺ ☺ ☺
Sorrentino's (10844-95 St., 425-0960) In the heart of Little Italy, serves delicious authentic Italian fare. ☺ ☺ ☺ ☺ ☺
The Old Spaghetti Factory (10220-103 St., 422-6088) Heaping plates of spaghetti served with their patented thick, tasty sauce. ☺ ☺ ☺ ☺ ☺ Fri/Sat ☺ ☺ ☺ ☺ ☺

Tony Roma's (11730-Jasper Ave., 488-1971) Great barbecue chicken and ribs with lots of food on your plate. ☺ ☺ ☺ ☺ ☺
Zenari's on 1st (10117-101 St., 425-6151) Humble, artsy hangout with appetizing combinations of soup, sandwiches and pasta. ☺ ☺ ☺ ☺ ☺

JAPANESE

Furasato (10012-82 Ave., 439-1335) Cozy restaurant featuring a choice selection of meals from the Land of the Rising Sun. ☺ ☺ ☺ ☺ ☺
Mikado (10651-116 St., 425-8096) The oldest Japanese restaurant in Edmonton for a good reason. ☺ ☺ ☺ ☺ ☺
Oaka (1051-82 Ave., 944-1388) Good, affordable sushi and other authentic specialties on Whyte Ave.

KOREAN

Bul-Go-Gi House (8813-92 St., 466-2330) Traditional eastern flavors expertly created just west of Bonnie Doun. ☺ ☺ ☺ ☺ ☺

MEXICAN

Julio's Barrio (10450-82 Ave., 431-0774) Hearty dishes in a trendy neighborhood, perfect for your next fiesta. ☺ ☺ ☺ ☺ ☺
Lone Star Cafe (11811 Jasper Ave., 488-4330) Canada's only authentic Texas Restaurant. ☺ ☺ ☺ ☺ ☺

PASTRY

Pastel's Featuring Grabba Jabba (10665 Jasper Ave., 426-0105) Fresh pastry and excellent coffee. ☺ ☺ ☺ ☺ ☺

PIZZA

Funky Pickle (10441-82 Ave., 433-3865) Neatly tucked away on Whyte, offers tasty slices every time. Best Pizza Edmonton Journal, 1996, 97; Edmonton Journal 4-star rating. Take advantage of their free delivery. ☺ ☺ ☺ ☺ ☺
Miami Pizzeria (8424-109 St., 433-0733/433-0723) Edmonton's famous pizza since 1985, offers tasty home-made pizza with fresh ingredients. Dine in, Free Delivery, 15% off ☺ ☺ ☺ ☺ ☺
Pharos Pizzeria (8708-109 St., 433-5205) World famous pizza since 1970. Made with fresh ingredients and no preservatives. Try our Popeye, it's our specialty. We also offer small dishes for individuals ☺ ☺ ☺ ☺ ☺ Fri-Sat ☺ ☺ ☺ ☺ ☺

SEAFOOD

Seafly's Only (11521-104 Ave., 421-1071) Fish and chips galore—at an affordable price. ☺ ☺ ☺ ☺ ☺
Thomas' Fishermen's Grotto (9624-76 Ave., 433-3905) Award-winning restaurant serves all the pleasures of the sea from a quaint neighborhood location. ☺ ☺ ☺ ☺ ☺
Sir Winston's Authentic Fish & Chips (10415-51 Ave., 430-7170) The true taste of England's fresh battered cooking while you wait! ☺ ☺ ☺ ☺ ☺

THAI

Bua Thai Restaurant (10049-113 St., 482-2277) Thailand's distinct authentic cuisine of the new stylish restaurant in downtown Edmonton has already been compared with international standards by local and international visitors alike. 11 a.m.-10 p.m. Mon-Fri; 4 p.m.-10 p.m. Sat-Sun. ☺ ☺ ☺ ☺ ☺ (all days), \$\$\$
The King and I (8208-107 St., 433-2222) The King is back! Amazing selection of dishes—spicy and flavorful. Good enough for the Rolling Stones. ☺ ☺ ☺ ☺ ☺ Mon-Fri ☺ ☺ ☺ ☺ ☺
KRUJA WILAI Thai Restaurant (Stirling Pl, 9940-106 St., 424-8303) Our cooks from Bangkok offer you the best and most authentic Thai food in Edmonton. Vegetarian menu available. ☺ ☺ ☺ ☺ ☺ free after 6 p.m. ☺ ☺ ☺ ☺ ☺

UKRAINIAN

Pyrogy House (12510-118 Ave., 454-7880) Pyrogies and cabbage rolls—just like Baba used to make. ☺ ☺ ☺ ☺ ☺

VIETNAMESE

Bach Dang (7908-104 St., 448-0288) Vietnamese Noodle House. ☺ ☺ ☺ ☺ ☺
Oriental Noodle House (10718-101 St., 426-5068) Authentic Vietnamese food in a family-oriented environment. ☺ ☺ ☺ ☺ ☺

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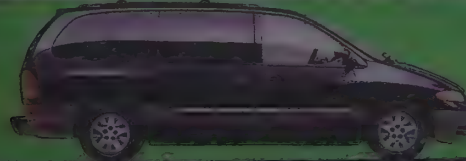
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week necessary. Call 420-1001.

The Edmonton Theatre Squared Society are looking for
volunteers. Opportunities for 1998 season. Directors, Assistant
Directors, Stage Managers, and Assistant Stage Managers.
Between 14-25 yrs. PH: 499-1271 before Dec. 22, 1997. Also
positions for volunteer technicians. Stage hands. Front of
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Ph: 499-1271.

Add a New Dimension The Friends of University Hospital
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ESL TUTORING NEEDED
Volunteer to teach English to adult immigrants; days or
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Edmonton Theatre Squared Society looking for volunteer
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Any interested persons are asked to call Carolyn at 448-
9200. Available positions include activity leaders, prop
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Make a world of difference by volunteering only 2-3 hrs a
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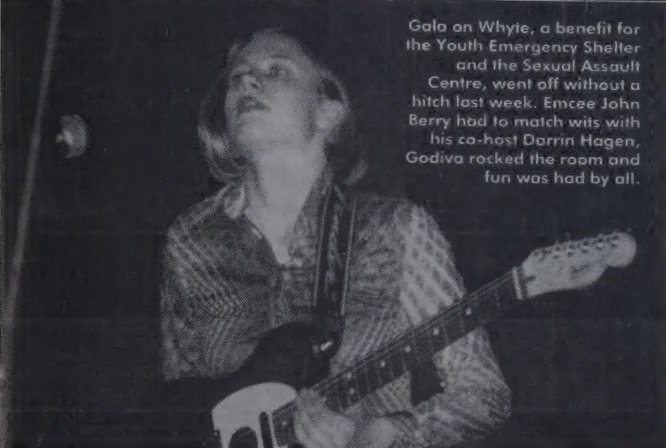
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FAST LOOKS



Michelle Cooper



Gala on Whyte, a benefit for the Youth Emergency Shelter and the Sexual Assault Centre, went off without a hitch last week. Emcee John Berry had to match wits with his co-host Darrin Hagen, Godiva rocked the room and fun was had by all.

REAL-LIFE TELEPERSONALS PRESENTS: "The 1st call"

SHE SAID

"Oh sure, I had been dating - all the wrong guys..."

Maybe I was dating for the wrong reasons - or looking in all the wrong places! So I decided enough with the bars, enough with the bull. Last August, I was just browsing through the paper when I saw the Telepersonals ad. I decided to call. I was really curious about who was out there, and that's where this story really begins. Actually, things were going to begin pretty quick. Why? Because there was this guy named Frank out there...

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QUEEN CAVERLEY - 38, administrative secretary, romantically resourceful redhead, and 100% genuine Telepersonals user.

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Women seeking Men

My name is Tammy. I'm an attractive female, 28 yrs. old, 4'10" tall, with freckles, long, wavy, dark brown hair & brown eyes. I've a wide variety of interests including: pool, dancing, & meeting new people. If you're interested, get back to me. Box 6225.

Im in my 40's, 5'5" tall, 150 lbs., with brown hair & brown eyes. I'm active, employed & easygoing. I'm looking for a family man to share pillow talk & cuddle up to. I'd like to share secrets & private jokes. What do people say about me? She's a nice lady. If you're interested, give me a call. Box 9733.

Im 19 yrs. old, with dirty blonde hair & blue eyes. I like relaxing at home with movies. If you're interested, get back to me. Box 6323.

I believe that love is about forgetting yourself & giving whole heartedly to someone else. Only a unique person can offer this & only a unique person can accept it. If you can honestly say that you're an individual, someone who strives to learn & never stops evolving, then you're the person that I'm looking for. I'm a writer & my life is devoted to words. I'm in a constant transition because I force myself to be. With me you will never be bored. Would you like to be part of this intensity? Leave me a message. Box 6882.

Im your average Canadian female, 27 yrs. old, & divorced. I'm intelligent & employed. I'm looking for the average Canadian male, 5'6" or taller, in reasonably good shape, 25-40 yrs. old, passionate, responsive & kind. Are you looking for someone who might be willing to spend the rest of their life with you & willing to take the time to find out who that person is? I want to talk to you. Box 4866.

My name is Hesteria. I'm a slim, blue-eyed blonde, in my early 40's. I enjoy documentaries, long walks, & going for coffee & dessert. I'm looking for a friend with religious, who's never been married & has no dependents. If any of this sounds interesting, leave me a message. Box 1140.

This is Kimberly. I'm 19 yrs. old, 5'8" tall, 115 lbs., with tanned skin, shoulder length, brown hair & brown eyes. I'm looking for open-minded guys who like to have fun & aren't afraid to try new things. You should be truthful & honest & maybe have a little bit of a daredevil in you. If this sounds like you, get back to me. Box 8830.

Im 5'8" tall, with long, blonde hair & blue eyes. I'm considered attractive, personable, caring, & honest, with a sense of humor. I like outdoor activities & anything to do with sports. I'm looking for a non-smoking, tall, attractive man with good values & a sense of humor. You should have a balanced life & enjoy people, animals, traveling, cars & life in general. Mostly you should have a good heart. If any of this sounds interesting, leave me a message. Box 5118.

Im a gal, in my mid 50's, 5'8" tall, with shoulder length, blonde hair & brown eyes. I'm confident & possess a good sense of humor. If you're interested & would like to know more, get back to me. Box 1463.

Im 19 yrs. old, 5'3" tall, 185 lbs., with blonde hair & blue eyes. I'm a country girl who loves to two-step & line dance. I'm looking for a cowboy who also likes to dance. If this sounds like you, box me back. Box 8848.

Im 32 yrs. old, 5'3" tall, 135 lbs., with brown hair & hazel eyes. I'm looking for no strings attached day time or night time encounters. You should be 20-40 yrs. old, a non-smoker & a social drinker. I enjoy pool, movies, dining, candlelit dinners, horseback riding, music & some dance. If you have any of these qualities or interests, box me. Box 9652.

This is Rachel. I'm 5'5" tall, with long brunette hair & green eyes. I like the clubs, pool, camping, relaxing with a good movie, music, etc. I'm just looking for some new friends & wanting to know some new people. If you're interested, & you'd like to know a little bit more about me, leave me a message. Box 9430.

This is Cindy. I'm a college student, 20 yrs. old, 5'1" tall, with shoulder length, brown hair & blue eyes. I like pool, hanging out downtown or quiet evenings at home watching a movie. I'm looking for a guy 20-30 yrs. old, who's romantic & who knows how to treat a lady right. You should be outgoing & a people person like me. If this sounds like you, box me. Box 7837.

This is Helen. I'm an attractive, ambitious woman, in my 20's. I'm friendly, caring, honest, & always willing to do anything for a friend. You should be 23-29 yrs. old, tall, husky, professionally employed, smart, ambitious, outgoing, down-to-earth, & honest, with a great sense of humor. I believe strongly in chemistry & if it's not there, I'm always glad to meet a new friend. If this has piqued your curiosity, leave me a message. Box 4296.

My name is Carol. I'm 46 yrs. old, 5'4" tall, 138 lbs., & trim. I'm the single mother of two teenagers. I like walks, bowling, dancing, country music, & more. If you're interested & would like to know more, box me back. Box 1640.

Im a divorced woman, 35 yrs. old, 5'7" tall, 145 lbs., with auburn hair & green eyes. I enjoy many different things. I'm looking for a humorous, well-rounded, articulate, financially secure individual. If you'd like to leave me a message, feel free. Box 8772.

Im a young looking female, 38 yrs. old, 5'2" tall, 120 lbs., with long, blonde hair. I'm a smoker & casual drinker. I'm down-to-earth, & fun to be with. I like action films, I'm interested in a slim, handsome man, 33-39 yrs. old. If you're interested, get back to me. Box 6703.

Im 5'11" tall, 130 lbs., with long legs, brown hair & brown eyes. I'm looking for a man, 25-40 yrs. old, who's sexy, interactive, & keeps in good physical shape. If you're interested, please respond to me. Box 1839.

Im a single, white female, 33 yrs. old, 5'4" tall, with blonde hair, hazel eyes & a great smile. I'm looking for a life-size teddy bear who's romantic, huggable & lovable. You should be real, honest, & respectable. You should be affectionate & attractive, with broad shoulders. You should also have a wide variety of interests & a good sense of humor. I have two children, 5 & 8 yrs. old. I'm outgoing, honest, romantic & huggable. I'm not looking for material things as I have everything I need except a companion to share fun times & laughter. Box 6198.

Im 33 yrs. old, 140 lbs. I'm confident, easygoing & friendly. I love sports, Karaoke, & pool. If you're interested, box me back. Box 2923.

My name is Donna. I'm 46 yrs. old. I'm looking for casual dating & friendship. I'm looking for a man under 40 yrs. old, with a good head of hair. I like dancing, music & someone that I can talk to. If this sounds like you, get back to me. Box 1794.

Men seeking Women

My name is Pat. I'm a divorced, single female, 50 yrs. old, 5'6" tall, 135 lbs. I'm looking for a man over 45 yrs. old, for a really good friendship hoping that it will turn into more. I like the simple things in life such as a barbecue & occasionally going out for coffee or a movie. I'm divorced, & have no dependents. I'm a smoker who's easygoing & has a warped sense of humor. If you're interested, get back to me. Box 2886.

Im 6'2" tall, 185 lbs., considered attractive, with a slim build, brown hair & brown eyes. I'm looking for a little spice in my life. I'm very discreet, open-minded & adventurous. I'd like to meet a woman, 20-40 yrs. old, who shares similar interests to me. If any of this sounds interesting, box me back. Box 8136.

My name is Terry. I'm a divorced, shift worker, 43 yrs. old, I'm a smoker & a social drinker. I have three young children that I see on my weekends off. I'm looking for someone, 38-45 yrs. old, slim to medium build, to grow old with. I love scorable & most card games. If you're interested, box me. Box 7161.

My name is Ron. I'm 58 yrs. old, who would be interested in discreet, intimate encounters. If you're interested, & would like to play naughty games, call Box 1337.

This is Dave. I'm 33 yrs. old. I'm looking for a girl, 18-24 yrs. old, who would be interested in discreet, intimate encounters. If you're interested, & would like to play naughty games, call Box 1337.

Im a tall, slim, attractive, educated, successful, communicative, intelligent guy with a good head on my shoulders. I'm looking for someone with similar qualities who's interested in more in life, with a little sex. If interested, call Box 1858.

Im a single male, 5'11" tall, 185 lbs., clean-shaven, with a nice smile, short, respectable, brown hair & hazel eyes. I'm looking for an attractive, female who knows where she's going & what she wants out of life. If you're interested & would like to know more, leave me a message. Box 4024.

Im a recently separated gentleman, 33 yrs. old. I'm looking for an attractive, slim, employed female companion, 24-30 yrs. old, nothing serious with no expectations. I'd love to take up racquet ball & would like someone to do that with. If you're interested, please leave me a message. Box 2003.

Im a single, white male, 31 yrs. old, 6' tall, 190 lbs., & considered attractive. I'm a country boy at heart. I'm a non-smoker & light social drinker. I've never been married & have no children. I'm a wide variety of interests including the outdoors, sports, pool, horseback riding, dining, dancing, music, skiing, & much more. I'm looking for someone with similar interests. Get back to me. Box 8384.

Im a fairly attractive, white male, 48 yrs. old, 5'8" tall, 155 lbs., with an 18 yr. old son. I'm a smoker & a light social drinker. I'm seeking a very attractive, slim lady to be my best friend & life-soulmate. You should be very sexy, classy, open-minded, sensual, sensuous, adventurous, & down-to-earth. You should love to laugh, & be emotionally & financially stable. I like dancing, driving, nature, golfing, car racing, movies, dining & more. If this sounds like you, leave me a message. Box 3464.

My name is Clint. I'm 29 yrs. old, 5'8" tall, 208 lbs., with brown hair & brown eyes. I enjoy movies, long walks, cooking, collecting anything to do with grizzly bears, pool, & more. If you're interested, leave me a message. Box 5653.

Im 42 yrs. old, 5'10" tall, 170 lbs., clean-shaven with short blond hair. I'm looking for a lady, 26-36 yrs. old, for friendship, walks in the park, movies, or dinners. We should take it easy to begin & see where it goes from there. If any of this sounds interesting, leave me a message. Box 5544.

Im a single, white male, 31 yrs. old, 6' tall, 190 lbs., & considered attractive. I'm a country boy at heart. I'm a non-smoker & light social drinker. I've never been married & have no children. I'm a wide variety of interests including the outdoors, sports, pool, horseback riding, dining, dancing, music, skiing, & much more. I'm looking for someone with similar interests. Get back to me. Box 8384.

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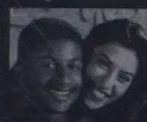
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